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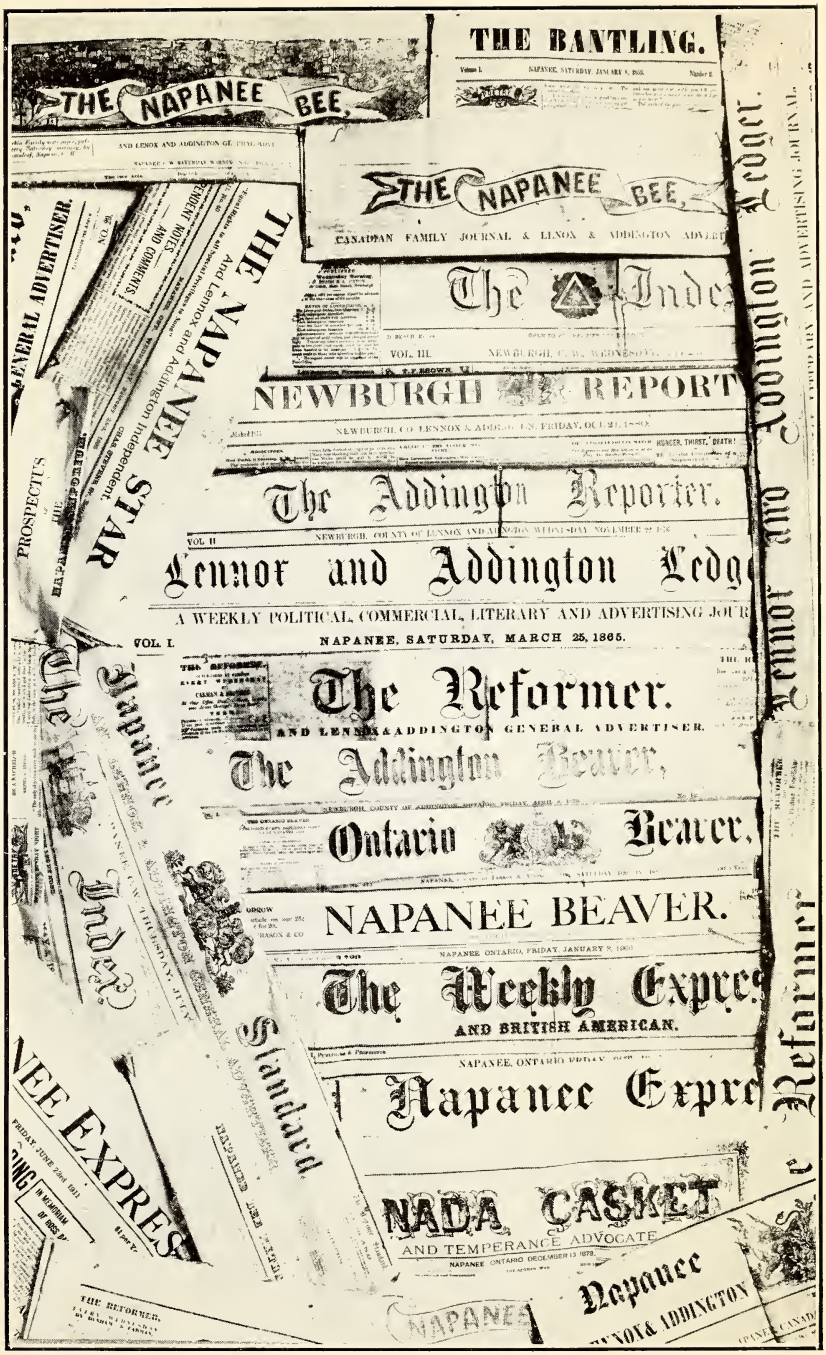
LENNOX AND ADDINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PAPERS AND RECORDS

VOL. X

THE NEWSPAPERS OF THE COUNTY

NAPANEE, ONTARIO
PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY
1919


THE NAPANEE BEE,
THE BANTLING.
THE NAPANEE BEE,
CANADIAN FAMILY JOURNAL & LENOX & ADDINGTON ADVER
The Index
NEWBURGH REPORT
The Addington Reporter.
Lennox and Addington Ledge
A WEEKLY POLITICAL, COMMERCIAL, LITERARY AND ADVERTISING JOUR
VOL. I. NAPANEE, SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 1865.
The Reformer.
AND LENNOX & ADDINGTON GENERAL ADVERTISER.
The Addington Beaver.
Ontario Beaver.
NAPANEE BEAVER.
The Weekly Expres
AND BRITISH AMERICAN.
Napanee Expre
NADA CASKET
AND TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE
Napanee
THE NAPANEE STAR
Lennox and Addington Ledger.
Standard.
Reformer
PROSPECTUS

LENNOX AND ADDINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PAPERS AND RECORDS

VOL. X

THE NEWSPAPERS OF THE COUNTY

A HISTORICAL SURVEY OF THE NEWSPAPERS OF LENNOX AND ADDINGTON PRESENTED IN THE FORM OF EXTRACTS FROM THE OLD FILES

COMPILED AND EDITED
By WALTER S. HERRINGTON, K.C.

NAPANEE, ONTARIO
PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY
1919

PRINTED AT THE BEAVER OFFICE

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Vol. II. Early Education.....Sept. 19th, 1910

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Vol. V. The Bell and Laing School Papers.....March 14th, 1914

Vol. VI. Pioneer Life on the Bay of Quinte, by W. S. Herrington, K.C.....May 4th, 1915

Vols. VII and VIII. (Double Number). The Constitutional Debate in the Legislative Assembly of 1836, with Introduction by William Renwick Riddell, LL.D., F. R. Hist., etc.....Nov. 7th, 1916

Vol. IX. The Canniff Collection.....Oct. 30th, 1917

OFFICERS, 1919

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INTRODUCTION

In the preparation of this volume I have had something more in view than to simply place on record the history of the newspapers of Lennox and Addington. By studying these papers, particularly the editorials and communications, we may get into closer touch with the thoughts and feelings of the people for whom and by whom the articles were written. It may appear that I have given undue prominence to The Standard. I feel that I am quite justified in devoting so much space to it, as it is the only paper which preserved its files and provided material for extended references. Moreover it was by far the strongest paper published in the county and for over thirty years it was a weekly visitor to hundreds of homes, and the uniform soundness of its editorials gained for it the respect and confidence of its readers.

In making my selections I have confined myself pretty well to the story of the separation of the County. I might, instead, have taken up the subject of the American War or Confederation, both of which were very ably and fully treated in its columns. Separation appeared to be the most suitable subject as it is a purely local and a very important one too, and the press, particularly The Standard, played a most conspicuous part in bringing it about.

W. S. HERRINGTON.

THE NAPANEE BEE

Lennox and Addington did not boast a newspaper as early as many of the other counties of the province. That was due to the fact that Kingston was the county town and the press of that place was the first established in Upper Canada and appeared to serve the needs of the people of this part of the old County of Frontenac, Lennox and Addington. The first publication to enter the field was The Napanee Bee, which made its bow to the public on the 2nd of November, A.D. 1850. The editor and proprietor was the Rev. G. D. Greenleaf, who resigned the pulpit for the editorial chair, and in the rear of the press-room spent his spare hours in making and mending furniture. In his dual occupation he never quite abandoned his ministerial functions and frequently officiated in the Methodist pulpit on Sundays, and regularly padded his columns with lectures on temperance and never missed an opportunity to expose what he conceived to be the weaknesses of the other denominations.

The Bee was a five column sheet of four pages, which was occasionally enlarged to six columns when matter was plentiful and orders were not awaiting fulfilment in the cabinet making branch of the establishment. The editor found it necessary to apologize at times for reducing its size. This was generally due to the scarcity of paper, but on one occasion the explanation was as follows,—"One of our printers having taken French leave of us on Sabbath evening and taken sans ceremonie a watch belonging to another from our office, our being obliged in consequence to lose a day in catching and properly disposing of the thief and getting back the watch are the principal reasons of our being under the necessity of allowing our sheet to go out in its present appearance."

With a prescience rarely encountered in a village sanctum the editor in commenting upon the recently enacted Fugitive Slave Law of the United States, writes in his issue of November 16th, 1850 :—"Between the Northern and Southern portions of the Union an implacable enmity seems to have taken root ; and bitter, indeed, will be the fruit thereof when it shall have been matured. Slavery is a dark stain on the escutcheon of the American people, a

stain which will only be removed, I fear, by the spilling of blood."

I fancy I can see a smile lighting up the fat countenance of the Reverend editor when he penned the following:— "The Bishop of Toronto has recently exercised his Episcopal authority in dismissing from his pastoral connection with the English Church in this province, the Rev. Daniel Murphy, a regularly ordained clergyman in the Church in which he is now degraded."

Then follows a copy of the Bishop's letter in which he reprimands the Rev. Mr. Murphy for "attending protracted meetings of dissenters and permitting your family to go to dissenting places of worship. Add to all this you appeared before me without any clerical habit not even bands and had only one confirmation in your extensive mission."

There evidently were other reasons for the action of his Lordship in arriving at the conclusion, as he did, that Mr. Murphy's continuance in the Diocese was not for the benefit of the church ; but as these were the only ones mentioned in the Bishop's letter, Mr. Greenleaf eagerly seized upon them as the "only assignable reason for this exercise of his Lordship's displeasure".

The Bee adopted an attractive method of reminding its delinquent subscribers that payment of their accounts would be quite acceptable to the proprietor :—

"It does not with our views agree,
To be forever dunning ;
But if you'll pay us for the Bee,
You'll save us cost and running.

We've served you all, as best we could
To literary honey,
And now we want both flour and wood
And wont refuse the money.

Our terms, you know, are—IN ADVANCE,
Of this you've not been heedful,
And now improve the present chance,
And hand us in the needful."

It was on the subject of temperance that the Bee waxed most eloquent. Every copy devoted one or more columns to the question so dear to the heart of the editor. On one occasion The Whig took up the gauntlet for the tavern keepers and expressed the opinion that the taverns were so well managed that they were becoming as clean, tidy and comfortable as the far famed inns of New and Old England, and regretted that they were being so persecuted by the temperance organization. This exasperated the

reverend editor, who promptly came to the rescue of the temperance societies, and handled the Whig without gloves. "This is certainly a rich idea—an idea every way worthy of the cranium which conceived it, the pen which wrote it and the press which spread it before the world." In a masterly style he advanced the oft-repeated arguments against the traffic and reached the climax of his effort in the following :—"It is, however, indeed true, that the popular voice is beginning to be heard, and that the work of spoiliation carried on by the vendors of strong drinks in the sale of those drinks is becoming more and more apparent to all persons of all classes, and that the general cry "down with the liquor traffic", is reverberating louder and yet louder still, throughout Canada ; and throughout the world. Speed it on ye winds of Heaven ! Ye mighty waves of the King of Waters ! Ye snorting iron steeds, traversing vast continents ! Ye earth confined lightning, transmitting knowledge with the speed of thought ! Ye literary cohorts, engaged in the cause of truth and righteousness and who wield instruments mightier than the sword, the pen and the press. Speed on the shout "down with the liquor traffic", until that class of men, whose pieces of silver are many of them often, very often, the price of blood, are compelled to abandon a business which produced and yet produces nine-tenths of the pauperism and crime throughout the country."

In concluding his three column effusion he took one parting shot at his co-temporary who had dared to say a word in extenuation of the business of the tavern keeper. "The Whig may trumpet forth his honorable alliance and make dolorous lament over the imaginary wrongs of his persecuted constituents—he may extol his own virtues and dilate upon the praiseworthy efforts of his compeers in the cause of intemperance ; but let him beware how he charges upon teetotalers the possession of those motives and passions which more than one fact evince to be rankling in his own bosom." The granting of licenses rested with the township councils and for many years the Sons of Temperance were a factor to be reckoned with at election time. The following communication from a correspondent in the Township of Ernesttown upon the question of tavern licenses is enlightening :—"Mr. Editor,—For the edification of your numerous readers, I lay down to you a short sketch of the proceedings of our learned council on the question of licensing the sale of intoxicating drinks. You will remember that there were twelve licenses granted last year ; for which the council, the majority of which were Sons, were roundly taken to task by the advocates of the good order, but one of the Sons

being ousted by the advocates of the good old rum system, who says that the greatest enjoyment he has, is to take a glass with an old friend when he is out, very little could be expected from that quarter ; but light has been advancing during the year and the opposers of the license were sanguine in their expectations."

"Mr. Day thought they ought to give licenses to all who could pay for them."

"Mr. Warner moved, seconded by Mr. Booth, that the number should not exceed eight."

"Mr. Perry moved, seconded by Mr. Davy, that the number should not exceed eleven."

"The lesser number was carried by the casting vote of the Reeve."

"On the question how much each applicant should pay for a license, Mr. Perry wished to lessen the amount because he did not like to derive a revenue from such a source. Mr. Booth would increase the amount because he thought men ought to pay well for the harm they did in this community."

"On the question whether moral character should be required of the applicants, Mr. Perry thought it would be wrong to employ moral men in such an immoral business. The question was carried in the affirmative by the casting vote of the reeve."

"There are many persons who have heard Mr. McLean declare that he would rather have his right arm cut off than to vote for licenses ; but we saw him last Monday deliberately vote for eight." "But he was reeve and could not help it," says somebody. "Who made him reeve ? Verily his unenviable position is voluntary. It has been said that every man has his price ; but the honor of being reeve of a township is a small price. I have nothing more to say, your readers will make their own comments. You will see I am not in the habit of writing, but I can chop or thresh with any fellow in these diggings."

"Yours respectfully,

JOSH JUMPER."

"Ernesttown, 17th Feb., 1852."

The early newspapers were not afraid to discuss all public questions and if in so doing it became necessary to criticize the conduct of some one in office the editor unhesitatingly did so. Correspondents were encouraged by his example, and the result was the free and open ventilation of all public grievances through the columns of the local press. An excellent illustration of this wholesome practice is shewn in respect to the letter of Josh Jumper.

He opened up the question of the excessive number of licenses and scored Reeve McLean, a Son of Temperance, for voting for eight tavern licenses in the Township of Ernesttown. In the very next issue of the Bee another correspondent comes to the rescue of the Reeve, in an able communication so forceful and well written that I do not hesitate to reproduce it in full :—

"Sir,—In the last number of your excellent little journal there is published a communication from some person who evidently intends to injure the recently elected Reeve of the township of Ernesttown. Now, much as I am opposed to the licensing of taverns—those places of infamy—I cannot join in trying to injure Mr. McLean for his vote at the time mentioned. Surely, friend "Josh Jumper", keen and sprightly as he may appear to be from the name he bears, must be an excessively dull and stupid fellow, if he cannot perceive that, although the reeve did vote for the licensing of eight taverns, yet he did not at all go contrary to his formerly avowed principles ; for, the question was not whether there should be eight taverns or none at all, but whether eight or eleven ; and he, as every conscientious public man should do, voted the smallest possible number. And, it is an act of great injustice, on the part of the writer of this communication, so to misrepresent the thing as to leave an entirely wrong impression on the minds of your readers—as there is no doubt but what it actually is the desire of the Reeve to have Ernesttown free from all grog holes."

"Now, supposing that he, instead of using his influence in the manner he did, had given the casting vote against the party that is now triumphant, what may I ask would have been the consequence ? Why, instead of having only eight of those grog holes, there would have been three more added to this number, to assist in the cause of drunkeness, which is already a deadly curse to the township."

"There is no doubt but that Josh's assertion that "he can chop or thresh with any fellow in the diggings", is perfectly correct, but surely he would have done far better to have remained at the business for which nature seems to have designed him, than to have exhausted his time and energies in trying to injure the characters of certain men, unless he can find some better reasons for doing so than the one given in his last communication."

"Far better would it be for him and such men to remain quietly chopping on their log heaps or threshing on their barn floors than to run their heads against something for which nature had never designed them, for although he may make fearful havoc in chopping a bass-

wood tree, "he's no great shakes" when it comes to cutting and slashing at an opponent through the columns of a newspaper—I do not at all attempt to defend the other part of the council for their proceedings on the question, and although I am of the opinion that they might have done more towards lessening the number of tippling houses that are already in existence—yet I had never expected that they would be abolished entirely during the short space of one year."

"Yours respectfully,

ERNEST TOWN."

"March 3rd, 1855."

The effect of Josh's letter did not end with the ventilation of the license question in the township of Ernesttown. Richmond, including the Village af Napanee, had no less than thirteen taverns, and one "E. S.", moved by the correspondence from Ernesttown, came forward with an epistle, in the same issue of the Bee, which gives us an insight into the game of municipal politics as it was played sixty-six years ago.

"Sir,—In the Bee of the 27th of Feb. I observe a communication signed "Josh Jumper", which gives the proceedings of the Ernesttown Council, with respect to the licensing public houses. He complains most of the Reeve, for giving the casting vote for eight tavern licenses for that township. I do not know what the number of inhabitants is in the township of Ernesttown, but I should think it is one-third more than the township of Richmond, at least, and yet Richmond is to be cursed with 12. What will "Josh" think of this? Can he complain? Richmond has on the assessment roll about five hundred & fifty freeholders and householders. If this be correct it will give two taverns and a fraction over for every hundred on the assessment roll. Perhaps, Mr. Editor, before going any further it will be proper to look back a year or two. In the year 1850 there were licensed in the township of Richmond 13 taverns. Well sir, the Sons and other true hearted temperance men thought this too many; and were determined to lessen the number. To accomplish this, at the town meeting of 51, there were three pledged temperance men and two Sons proposed for councillors and two Sons and one temperance man for inspectors. The Election was lost, it is true; but with it was lost three taverns."

"The council elected in 51, said Richmond should have only ten taverns. In this they kept their word. It was all we had. The townmeeting of 52 came on and two of the council were candidates again. One of these and the

second who addressed the electors in the course of his address said, "as regards the taverns, we last year reduced the number 13 to ten and I think these will have a further reduction."

"The next speaker endorsed the sentiments and said he thought ten too many; and that the number ought to be reduced. After him, came on, a thorough going temperance man as was supposed, but he did not allude to the question at all. It was supposed that, as he was a temperance man, he would go for reducing the number of licensed taverns. But, how vain our wishes and our hopes! The very first by-law passed, by the new council revealed to the sober part of the community how greatly they were deceived. The very first clause of by-law 34 modestly reads "that the whole number of taverns to be licensed to sell wines and spirituous and fermented liquors for the year commencing the first of March, 1852 and ending the last of February, 1853 shall not exceed twelve in the township of Richmond."

"I need only refer to this very by-law to prove deception in order to secure their election."

"But sir, I hope he will listen to by-law 34 of the Richmond code which orders the inspectors to report to the council on the 24th of Feb. the number of applicants they may find qualified, according to by-law No. 33. They did report eight all that they thought qualified. But what does our learned council do? They do not think it enough, some friends are left out and they must have licenses. But they are not prepared, according to by-law No. 33 and the inspectors will not report them qualified. What must be done? This is reduction in the wrong quarter. Tell it not in Gath, speak it not in Akelon that by-law 34 of the township of Richmond is suspended until the 28th of Feb., in order to allow certain parties time to prepare for the inspectors and they are ordered to go and again examine the premises of those they could not report before. One applicant must have yards put in one place, another rent stables away from his house; a third, must repair sheds and I suppose, if necessary borrow some beds and furniture. By the 28th all is ready. The inspectors sally forth, the premises are re-examined and reported as qualified, according to by-law 33, they obtain licenses and so come up to the number specified in said by-law—twelve. And, yet, our council go tooth and nail for reduction. But, sir, if this be reduction, I do most sincerely hope we shall have no such reduction in our taxes."

"I may refer again to this question, at some future time and try to fix the responsibility of the increase of taverns on the right parties, and answer one or two

reasons advanced for this increase. I shall close by requesting your readers to consider this matter and 'Josh Jumper' in particular not to take umbrage at the use of his name. I only show him that he ought not to complain of eight taverns when he has three villages and we only one."

"Yours E. S."

The Bee like most of the early newspapers encouraged the rhymster and under the heading "poetry" appeared many contributions, all of them bad, but some much worse than others. Why editors give space to such matter the writer has often wondered for it is a species of offence not confined to the early newspapers. Is the editor afraid of offending the contributor by refusing to publish the silly rhymes that so frequently appear in his columns? If so, it might be well, before accepting the copy, to consider the offence he gives his readers by publishing such stuff. The editor of the Bee was partial to rhyme, especially so, if it dealt with the temperance question. I will inflict only one sample upon the reader. A certain Mr. Clark had the distinction of keeping a temperance hotel at Mill Creek (Odessa). The following lines were alleged to have been left at the house by an admiring guest as "a token of respect" to the landlord :—

Long in mem'ry will I cherish
This bright spot amid the gloom
Gath'ring round, while thousands perish
Mid its dark and fearful gloom !
Here, I do not finds its trace ;
Here, the curse hath not a place.

While the darkness yet is o'er us,
Faith is firm and hope is bright ;
There's a better day before us ;
There's an end to this dark night ;
We may doubt—we may fear—
Yet, a Resurrection's near.

Hasten then, its glorious breaking,
Sever Rum's soulcankering chain,
Rise, the millions now are waking,
Dawns Earth, a primal morn again,
May this gloom forsake our skies
"Star of Temperance" arise.

But, adieu, the years I number,
Will be bright with mem'ries here ;
Though in distant lands I slumber,

God will bring your triumph near ;
Firmly then with faith and might
Battle on for human right !

Good night, Good night,
For I must away by the morning light.

The Bee was doomed to be short lived. The editor scolded and coaxed but the subscriptions remained unpaid and there was a falling off in the advertising matter except the patent medicines. He did not seem to realize that the chief end of a newspaper is to provide news for its readers. His advocacy of the temperance cause was quite proper, but the space devoted to it was out of all proportion to that given over to other reading matter. In vain he appealed to the temperance lodges to make the Bee their mouth-piece and thus hasten the coming of prohibition. A newspaper man needs to be broad minded ; but we can find no trace of this characteristic in the editor of Napanee's first newspaper. Shortly before the demise of the Bee, a Mr. Youmans, who had for some time been tutoring the young Mohawks up on the Tyendinaga Reserve, was giving a series of concerts, consisting of "comic, sentimental and moral songs ; dialogues, addresses, &c.", just the class of program we find in our Sunday Schools to-day. While accepting the advertisement Mr. Greenleaf felt it his duty to discourage this form of entertainment as likely to have an injurious effect upon the performers. In the same issue in which the advertisement appeared he commented editorially, "The Indian children, under Mr. Youmans, are decidedly active, they are bright specimens from Nature's quarry and susceptible of receiving a high and useful polish. Hence our fears. That friction which they are now having with a professedly civilized and Christian people cannot, we fear, result in any lasting good, either to themselves or those who hear them and see their theatrical exhibitions. Comic songs and grotesque illustrations contrast strangely with those of a sentimental and moral character, when mingled therewith. Those whose motto is :—'while we live let us live', may see nothing wrong in comic songs or comic exhibitions ; but with those whose motto is, 'in the midst of life we are in death', a distinction between that which exalts and that which debases man is ever discernable in the commonest occurences of life."

This is a fair sample of his puritanical views, and yet he saw nothing ridiculous in his narrow mindedness and wondered why his paper was not popular. The wonder is that it prolonged its life as long as it did. The Bee ceased to buzz before it had completed its second volume.

THE EMPORIUM

Not content with his experience with the Bee, Mr. Greenleaf concluded to make another trial at the newspaper business. He chose a more pretentious name, "The Emporium", for his new venture and took in a new partner, Mr. C. Lowry ; but neither the new name nor the new partner could overcome the prejudice against the editor's methods. He could not understand why the general public should not take as deep an interest in the temperance movement as he did and was annoyed to find that even the enthusiastic temperance advocates were not satisfied to accept dissertations upon temperance instead of news. The Emporium made its first appearance a few weeks after the Bee had suspended publication, but it was doomed to meet the same fate, and after a few issues, it also was discontinued. The editor quite disgusted with the poor taste of the citizens of Napanee and the surrounding country made no further efforts to reclaim them from the slough, ignorance and depravity in which, in his opinion, they had fallen in spite of his fatherly advice and good example.

THE INDEX

Newburgh was not to be outdone by Napanee in the newspaper line. In the month of January, 1853, there issued from the back shop of a drug store in the ambitious village the first number of the Index. It changed hands several times and continued to make its weekly appearance for nearly ten years. From a perusal of the few copies I have been able to unearth the wonder is that it lived as long as it did. In the first place one is struck with the utter absence of local news. This department is overdone in the local press of to-day which seriously chronicles the fact that Mrs. Jones called upon Mrs. Smith on Sunday afternoon, as though such an event could possibly be of public interest. The Index went to the other extreme and gave absolutely no information concerning the happenings in the village or any part of the county. The editorials were rare, and in vain have I searched for one worth reproducing. What did it contain ? Methinks I hear the reader ask. In the first place there was the inevitable poem, at least, it was published under the heading "Poetry". Some of these were copied from other publications ; but many of them were composed for the Index. A bard from Colebrook writing over the name "Experior", was a frequent contributor. In one of his lighter veins he inflicted a dozen stanzas upon the readers of the Index in the issue of May 2nd, 1855. The first three will serve our purpose as samples :—

'Tis obvious it would not do
If mankind had no whiskers,
For there's the fop and dandy, too,
They could not then exist, sir.

Moreover in this hairy age,
When shaving is a crime, sir,
There's many a serious minded sage,
Is not behind the time, sir.

He wears whiskers 'cause they're warm,
The dandy wears moustaches,
Because they dignify his form
And beautify his dashes.

The following, incredible as it may appear, is from the same pen :—

Beyond death's cold and chilling flood
There is a heavenly land of rest,
Where followers of the living God
Repose upon their Saviour's breast,
No waves of trouble ever roll
O'er the serene and peaceful shore,
And those who reach this heavenly goal
Rejoice to sigh and weep no more.

After the never failing poem came the serial, short stories and boiler plate anecdotes that still prevail in most of our local papers, and which under no conditions could be treated as news. The second page was given over to extracts from other papers, editorials, if any, and correspondence. The third page was devoted almost exclusively to advertisements. In this respect the Index showed considerable enterprise, as twelve columns out of the twenty-eight were advertising matter, many of them from business houses across the border. The scissors were freely used in securing material for such portions of the last page as were not filled with patent medicine advertisements, and the man wielding them does not appear to have been governed by any general rule in making his clippings. Anything and everything to fill up the space—poetry, sermons, parliamentary proceedings, it mattered not.

Thus, week after week, the same program was pursued and long suffering subscribers endured it nearly ten years. The editor occasionally woke up to snap back at the Standard or Reformer for poking fun at "Rogues Hollow", as Newburgh was called sixty years ago.

THE NAPANEE STANDARD

The Napanee Standard was founded in 1854 by a number of citizens of Napanee prominent among whom were Allan MacPherson, Robert Esson, B. C. Davy and Alexander Campbell. They all took a deep interest in the village and felt it should have a newspaper of its own. It was the first newspaper worthy of the name published in the county, and from the beginning it took its place among the best papers of the day. The editor took his stand upon public questions and, while it was at first recognized as a Conservative organ, he did not hesitate to withhold its support, when it was to the interest of the community to do so. This was very clearly manifested in the general election of 1863 when Augustus Hooper and Sir Richard Cartwright were the respective candidates. For many years one absorbing local issue in Napanee had been the separation of the Counties of Lennox and Addington from the United Counties of Frontenac, Lennox and Addington. Because Hooper had in 1860, while Warden of the United Counties, used his influence against the movement, the Standard, at a time when he was sorely in need of its support, chose to withhold it. For years it fought all comers who opposed separation. Many obstacles had to be overcome and powerful influences had to be met. Arrayed against the proposal were such stalwarts as John A. Macdonald, Henry Smith and Benjamin Seymour, and of course the united influence of the City of Kingston and the County of Frontenac. The Governor-in-Council had power by proclamation to effect a separation, if he deemed the circumstances such as to call for a separate establishment of courts and other County institutions ; but only after a majority of the Reeves and Deputy Reeves of the junior County had in the month of February for two successive years passed a resolution affirming the expediency of separation and in the month of February of the following year did transmit to the Governor a petition asking that separation be granted. Before its final consummation the battle was waged for ten years. Resolutions were passed and petitions were presented ; but the opponents of separation always found some means of thwarting the will of the people. In 1860 the Standard entered the arena with a determination to see that justice was done to Lennox and Addington. The following extracts from the editorials illustrate the ability displayed in that contest.

The issue of March 29th, 1860, contained the following : "The separation of the Counties of Lennox and Addington from the County of Frontenac has been the subject of much discussion within these Counties for some time past ; and

as the subject is of not less importance to us, as a community now, than when it was first introduced for debate, we assume the responsibility of referring to it again."

"It is no great secret in these parts that a petition is now safely before the House of Assembly, signed by a majority of the Municipalities of Lennox and Addington, praying that the separation in question be granted; and, which is in agreement with the expressed wishes of about two thousand of the inhabitants of the Counties of Lennox and Addington and furnished, as evidence of the prevailing desire of the people for the separation, to the House of Assembly two years ago, and it would be an insult to the common sense of the thinking portion of the Counties, to say that their views have since changed, notwithstanding the vacillation of any aspiring gentleman, or the tenacity for petty office honors of any, whose independence cannot rise above the love of a municipal election.

"The objections that have been urged against separation have been of the most flimsy nature, characteristic of pure selfishness from its beginning and running through all subsequent discussion, a principle most destructive to all future progressiveness, in any branch of local or public enterprise. It is a sad day for the weal of the public, that so little independence of mind is obtained among public men, even from the lowest municipal office to the legislature of the country, that sacrifice of local and public interests are made, in order to the accumulation of political capital. Because one man aspires after Legislature distinction; and another after the petty office of municipal councillor, interests of thousands must be sacrificed. This surely is a feature in our political economy not very complimentary to the intelligence and moral integrity of the nineteenth century."

"The strategems of political jobbers have become so notorious that the public eye is becoming brightened, so as the more efficiently to watch the manoeuvres of those, by whose hands are played the game of political trickery; and let not him, whose cunning may be thought to screen him from being detected in his complicity, dream that the day of retribution will never come; for, as sure as every effect has its cause, so sure, will 'one's sins find him out' though the day of revelation may be somewhat tardy in its approaches; and then will he smart for his duplicity."

"The double game, which is generally supposed, by parties who watched the progress of Legislature on the separation bill, when in a recent session it passed through the Lower House, only to be rejected by the Lords of the Upper House, is not yet effaced from their memories and a no less vigilance will mark the same parties, during the

present session ; however, we trust to witness an honest and successful disposition of this increasingly vexatious question."

"It is patent to every one that has taken the pains to ascertain the good sense of the community affected therein, that a large majority of the inhabitants of the Counties of Lennox and Addington, are ripe for the separation and are only hindered in effecting their scheme, by the predominant selfishness of a faction, who, up to the present, have possessed strategy sufficient to thwart the purposes and designs of the majority ; thus retarding the progress of justice and inflicting serious injury upon others, who from some technicality of prescribed form, have been rendered powerless to obtain their rights."

"What was it but the selfishness of a local faction, in and about the obscure village of Newburgh, that prompted their hostility against a joint separation with the County of Lennox, while they used every plea for a separate disunion from both the Counties of Frontenac and Lennox ? A more manifest injustice against a sister county could not easily have been projected. And what could have been the outside influence brought against the bill in the Upper House, but the political presence of certain members connected with the representation of Frontenac and the city of Kingston ; to say nothing of the moiety of the back water current, occasioned by the dread of accumulated taxes upon a few acres of land within the Counties owned by the Hon. Mr. Seymour, whose obtuseness prevented the vision of increased valuation to real estate, far eclipsing the consideration of increased taxation ?"

"Thus far we have merely been giving ventilation to the opposing influences ; shewing the predominant and only motive for opposition is selfishness, we now turn our attention to consider some of the arguments in favor of separation and demanding it."

"If we are not in error there is no county or union of counties that has an equal extent of territory with our United Counties. The Counties of Frontenac, Lennox and Addington embrace an area of 1,335,640 acres of land, of which 1200324 acres were returned as assessed in 1859. And in the separation Frontenac, in this respect, cannot complain, for she will still have 858940 acres as forming her County, nearly double the amount of Lennox and Addington together. We argue then, the necessity of a separation from the oversize of the United Counties, necessarily causing many miles distance from the County Town to a large portion of the inhabitants and especially as the County Town is not centrally located, being at one side, namely, in the County of Frontenac, probably about

sixty miles distant from the remotest municipality. To bring parties interested in the County Courts and Assizes from so great a distance six times a year and probably an average loss of time each occasion of two weeks, and those interested in the County Councils as many times more, is a consequence of very serious moment, involving sacrifice of time, means and comfort, which is oppressively felt and complained against ; yet, hitherto, without any relief. The grievance complained of, in this respect is rendered doubly grievous in the fact that the greater portion of the time thus consumed is occupied by the business of the County Town, incurring serious sacrifices upon those who are not in any way connected therewith. And again, a very disproportional amount of the current County expenses, is borne by the County of Frontenac and the City of Kingston and especially in view of the incontrovertible fact that the larger amount of the expenses is incurred by that portion of the County contiguous to the County Town and which has to be paid in a disproportionate ratio by the inhabitants of the Counties of Lennox and Addington, a fact which renders separation imperative in order that Lennox and Addington may be relieved from oppressiveness so cruel and burdensome."

"In the name of common sense, we ask, where is the justice in compelling the inhabitants of Lennox and Addington, who probably are not interested in over one-fifth of the business of the whole County, to be taxed with three-fifths of the county expenses ? In the face of truths like these, and facts are stubborn things, how can any enlightened Legislative body deny to Lennox and Addington a separation ?"

"It is, indeed, very fine for the people of the city of Kingston and the County of Frontenac, to have the establishment of a County Town perpetuated among them at the expense of Lennox and Addington Counties that have but little participation in their operations, only as they are called upon to hand over their means to give respectability to those who blush not in perpetuating this grievous burden."

"From this state of things as they exist, it is now readily understood how selfishness is chargeable against all opposers of this movement."

"If the Hon's. John A. Macdonald, A. Campbell and Henry Smith be found opposing our scheme, it is enough to say that each of them hails from the city of Kingston and are the representatives of that city and contiguous country."

"If any portion of Addington be found in the opposition, it is enough to say that the rising town of Napanee

threatens rivalry with their obscure Newburgh, in aspiration for County Town. And let it not be forgotten, so as to put our sister Addington in a fair light, before the Legislature and the public, in order that the motive of any opposition may appear undisguised, that Addington, even Addington, the amiable Addington took the initiatory, in her three annual Municipal votes for a separation both from the Counties of Frontenac and Lennox, she being the intervening county and put in her application before the Governor General for said separation, which was very wisely refused by His Excellency ; and now as a political job, she desires to take back her separation application, until a more favorable time turns up for the honor of having the County Town."

"We say, and have said all along, give us the separation, and let the location of the County Town be an after consideration and submitted to the decision of the reeves."

"In conclusion, we may remark, that our chief hope is in the independence and indomitable perseverance of our faithful and independent member, Mr. Roblin, whose powerful influence has been so much felt in support of men and measures, which have received the approbation of our enlightened county."

"We trust that Mr. Roblin will shew no less zeal and force, in pushing this measure through its various stages of legislation until the sanction of the Governor-General proclaims it law. We think that Mr. Roblin has undeniable claims upon the Ministry, who have received so much of his able support for a return of Legislative influence, which is not only due to Mr. Roblin, but demanded by the oppressed yeomanry of Lennox and Addington. Parliament was never convoked for merely local and personal aggrandizement ; but for the general welfare of the people interested in Legislative enactment. Hence upon public grounds, the rights of the people, we claim the passage of the Bill."

Thus did the Standard long before separation was effected state its case and, for upwards of three years, in season and out of season, it kept the question prominently before the public, met all arguments advanced against its position and no matter what the political effect was, no matter what friends or enemies were made, it never swerved from the terms of that manly editorial. Such a clear and convincing statement of the case for separation could not fail to attract the attention of those opposed to the movement, and the Whig was the first to comment upon it. To answer the arguments of the Standard it could not. The only course open to it was to challenge the statement of facts, which it did by alleging that the

United Council had petitioned against separation and that all the reeves and deputy-reeves of Addington and one reeve of Lennox had joined in a similar petition. To facilitate the movement Mr. David Roblin, the member of the Legislative Assembly for Lennox and Addington, had prepared a special Bill and brought it before the House. After the Bill had been introduced it is quite true that its opponents had succeeded in securing such petitions against it, but the Whig was in error when it stated that all the reeves and deputy-reeves of Addington had joined in the counter petition. These petitions, however, in no way wiped out the arguments for separation and in the next issue of the Standard the attempt of the Whig to evade the real issue was disposed of as follows :—

"The whole machinery at work effecting the sham movements among the Addingtonians is apparent to the most superficial observer. The vain expectancy of political influence affecting the future locality of the County Town is developing a duplicity which for the credit of Addington we lament. It is as patent as that two and two make four, that the majority of Addington is ripe for separation and the only obstacle in the way of their co-operation, officially, with Lennox is the County Town question. Indeed, it is very difficult to please those locality servers, and when the just principle of settling the point at issue, is so liberally proposed in the Bill now before Parliament one would hardly have thought that it could have been rejected ; yet, so it is for they are unwilling even to let the people decide where the most eligible location is. The faction whose manoeuvres have given existence to the petition in question, would not, apparently be satisfied unless the Bill provides that the aspiring village of Newburgh be made the County Town, although a large majority of the inhabitants of Lennox and Addington might say otherwise. As far as our judgment is concerned in the matter, it is very doubtful what locality the voice of the people would say shall be the honored one, and in it, Lennox runs as much risk as does Addington ; yet we are willing to leave the matter in the hands of the people, because the principle is fair and just, and we are sorry to say that the same generous, open, liberal and unselfish feelings do not characterize the Addington local faction. We will take a step farther in the scale of anti-selfishness and say that the interests of Lennox and Addington, as a separate county, are so paramount that we would advocate the separation, though the Bill provided that even Newburgh should be the County Town. We ask, will Addington evince such liberality ? The faction say No ! We will not even leave it to the people whose interests

ought to be considered in the settlement."

"We trust that our legislators will take an enlarged view of the matter and not permit the subterfuge of a few interested jobbers to bias them to the favoritism of any party. We ask, in this matter, for no private local favors. All that we ask is that justice be done to Lennox and Addington, an aggrieved and burdened portion of the United Counties as they now exist, with the County Town at one corner of the Counties, the expenses of which establishment are so disproportionately borne by Lennox and Addington without any adequate benefit arising therefrom."

"And touching the composition of the petition itself, it need scarcely be repeated that they do not represent the feelings of the people on this question, but that it is got up for a party purpose. The petition itself can have very little, if any, weight with the members of Parliament excepting with a few who are personally interested in the matter, as a neutralizing element had preceded it in the petition of a majority of the municipalities of the Counties of Lennox and Addington, praying for the separation, which petition, unquestionably, represents the sentiments of the people and whose voice doubtless will be heard."

The Standard also accused the editor of the Whig of stating an untruth when he said in his editorial "All the reeves and deputy reeves of Addington, together with one of the few reeves of Lennox united in a separate petition." This was an incorrect statement and admitted by the Whig to be so ; but it claimed that it had corrected the error by publishing the proceedings of the council in its next issue. This could hardly be treated as a correction of a statement of fact in the editorial in question and the Standard stood by its gun and insisted upon it that the editor had not only stated what was not true, but was guilty of another similar offence by claiming that he had corrected his error. This was too much for the Whig. Under the heading "A One-horse Newspaper", he administered what he evidently believed to be a very severe castigation to the editor of tne Standard and seemed quite pleased with the manner in which he had done it. The editor of the Standard took full advantage of his opponent's display of bad taste and an unruly temper in the following clever editorial.

"As we have a few moments to spare, perhaps we cannot employ them to the amusement of our readers better than in the way of acknowledging the courtesy of the venerable *Doctor of the Whig."

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* The Editor of the Whig at this time was Dr. Edward John Barker, grandfather of his successor, the late Mr. E J. B. Pense.

"And since the splenetic Doctor has shown such symptoms of feverish excitement, threatening a derangement of the cerebrum, which may be alarming to his friends, we will proceed cautiously to the analysis of the causes of this temporary aberration and offer these prescriptions and suggestions which we hope may lead to his speedy convalescence."

"In the first place, the venerable Doctor, in the manifestation of the over zeal for the local interests of the city of Kingston touching the County separation question, allowed himself to falsify the doings of the County Council in the premises by stating that all the reeves and deputy-reeves of Addington had petitioned against the separation."

"In our issue of the 5th instant we directed the attention of the Whig to his incorrect statement, which, of course, was calculated to damage the separation interests and intimated the probability of the Doctor's correcting it, for we were jealous for our own side of the question, and desirous that the truth should appear so that no false capital might thus be formed against us. Instead of correcting the error as ought to have been expected, the Doctor betrayed a haughtiness peculiar to the profession of quackery and denouncing us as impertinent, demanded to know wherein the falsified statement existed. In our next issue following, we quoted the objectionable paragraph, and asked the amiable Whig to correct it, and in reply we have the Doctor 'busted up'—the richest feature in the whole—a complete coup de grace—a diminishing stroke. Here it is, just as it came hissing and spitting and sissing and boiling from the over-heated cranium of the splenetic Doctor."

> "A ONE-HORSE NEWSPAPER.—Nothing is more vexing to a journalist than to be annoyed by the rudeness of the one-horse press. These creatures of paste and scissors know they can be impertinent with impunity, trusting to their utter insignificance. On the day the County Council adjourned, believing that all the Reeves and Deputy-Reeves of Addington had signed the petition against separation, it was so stated by us; whereas in fact, all but one had signed it. The next day this error was corrected by the publication of the proceedings of the Council, taken from the minutes. This error, a miserable seven by nine sheet, published at Napanee, has seized hold of and with an impertinent rudeness, natural in its condition, reiterates the cry of 'false', 'falsehood', 'false statement', etc. There is but one way to get rid of such annoyances."

"This perfect gem of literary taste and exquisite decorum, demands a little attention at our hands."

"We, all along, maintained our good nature with the Doctor and when this last precious exhibition came to hand, our risible propensities had a good opportunity of

development. Throughout we endeavored to maintain a proper respect for the age and position of our venerable co-temporary—The Father of the Press ; but if we have now lowered a degee or two in scale of editorial etiquette, the Doctor, himself, must be held responsible ; for when we have stuffed haughtiness to deal with—a real six-horse power—we must square our action accordingly, lest the Doctor be wanting in appreciation of our 'One Horse Seven-by-nine' "

"The propensity of the Whig for fibbing and sticking to it, is unmistakably developed throughout the entire melee and, in this his last precious demolisher, he clings tenaciously to it, showing how closely it is allied with his moral constitution."

"He now states that all the reeves and deputy-reeves of Addington, but one, had signed the petition to which so much notoriety is given. This is not the case if Mr. Wm. H. Gordanier belongs to that body of officials ; and why could not the Doctor own the corn at once, after he found himself exposed, and not wait for further ventilation of his fibbing tendencies. Again, to make some covering to his retreat and to hide his moral delinquencies, he states that on the next day the error was corrected, and, until he shall show up to the letter that such was the case, we shall hold him responsible for fib No. 2 in the matter. Alas, poor Doctor, thy hoary head is coming down dishonored, and be sure that thy sins will find thee out."

"Now, as to the Doctor's characteristic compliments to ourselves and paper, we cannot but smile it off as quite a good attempt in its way, but rather an unfortunate opening to his whereabouts and associated contingencies. We shall let the good sense of a respectable and increasing list of intelligent subscribers to the Standard bear its own testimony of appreciation of the 'One Horse Seven-by-nine.' This is our thirteenth number, and without effort, we have about 150 new subscribers, principally volunteers, and the over-abundant original matter refutes the slander of 'paste and scissors', an insinuation, the responsibility of which no paper in the Province, of which we have knowledge, is less prepared to assume than is the veritable Whig itself, a starved abortion in the newspaper circle of Canada, living upon the quack advertisements with which the country is so abundantly flooded. The egregious gormandizer of the Whig, in order to cater for the Whig family, sallies out on his annual puffing walks, thus eliciting the sympathies of those by whose compassion it is permitted to subsist, and when his local perambulations are over we hear of his country strides, and village puffing, and all, to secure the same desirable object ; and it may be, aught we know,

the railway and steamboat companies are bored out of dead-head passes, so as to give greater velocity to the Doctor's flight for pottage. Now, Dear Whig, take from the entire amount of the real originals gracing your columns these sketches of walks, trips, puffs, together with the book and exchange notices and what have you left to feast your readers upon, besides 'paste and scissors' and quack advertisements? Well, Doctor, this appears really too bad, you have a little more, we think, than you bargained for, but no one is to blame but yourself. Learn to be civil in your old days and assume not the haughtiness of the frog who never became an ox because of his failing to discover the philosophy of expansion."

"We fear the Doctor may have been driven to this frenzy, in view of the said consequences to his voracious stomach, in the event of Lennox and Addington's separation, seeing, in it, a probable diminution of provender; which reminds us of an anecdote we lately heard of a California adventurer, who upon turning up an unfortunate card, found himself embedded in the diggings, with his craving stomach now and anon, giving notice of being five meals behind hand."

"At a prospect like this, the Doctor, doubtless, would shudder; hence his demolisher at our heads. We take our leave, for the present of our friend, by remarking that we have much less consideration shown to us by him than even the Pope showed to his intractable son, Emanuel, to whom he gave some notification, before his final excommunication; for the Doctor's blow was nearly before the word. He closes by saying 'there is but one way to get rid of such annoyances' and that way seeming more practicable than any other, was our excommunication, which was as promptly done as said, for we are cut off from the usual exchange."

"We have hopes of surviving this calamity and the Doctor, probably, may have an opportunity of testing his remedy."

In this verbal altercation one does not need to seek far to learn which contestant got the better of the exchange of compliments. As usual, the man who loses his temper, loses also the respect of his readers, and leaves himself open to the jibes of his opponent. The Standard took full advantage of the opportunity and gave a further illustration in the same issue of his coolness and good sense when confronted with a reverse. After he had penned his reply to the Whig's ill-timed comments, word was received that the Roblin Bill was defeated. He met the unwelcome news with this brief editorial:—

"SEPARATION LOST."

"We give it up. When the powers that be, say No, we must succumb, until we gather strength to renew our suit."

"The News can afford to be jubilant in the turn the Bill has taken and we shall still maintain our good nature and jog along as if all were right, looking forward to a future day when enlarged views will obtain and personal aggrandizement will give place to general interests."

In the next issue appeared an extract from an article contributed to the Spectator by its Quebec correspondent, which tells the story of the fight put up for the county by its member Mr. David Roblin. "I found the committee in question (Private Bills) hard at work and Mr. Roblin on one side of the chairman and the Hon. J. A. Macdonald and the Speaker on the other. They were quarreling with a vengeance and this is the occasion of the strife." He then briefly outlines the issue and continues : "Mr. Roblin, the member for Lennox and Addington, has this year brought in, for the third time, a bill to this effect which is of course strongly opposed by all the influence Kingston can bear through Mr. Macdonald the member for the city, Mr. Speaker Smith member for Frontenac, and Mr. Campbell member for Cataraqui division. In the committee therefore these three set upon poor Roblin, who fought, I must say, manfully and brought in one or two members to his aid. But the legal and tactical skill of his opponents was too much for him and although what the preamble of the Bill states 'a majority of the Councillors of the United Counties have petitioned for joint separation' is unques tionably the fact, the majority of the committee was brought to disbelieve its own senses and reported 'preamble not proved'. Mr. Roblin is raging mad and intends to move to-morrow, that the committee be instructed to report the evidence on which they came to their conclusion."

The Whig came to the rescue of its member and his associates who had strangled the Roblin Bill in the committee :—

"The correspondent of the Spectator does not tell all the truth, he omits the fact that Addington does not now want separation, though it did two years ago ; that all the Reeves and Deputy-Reeves of Lennox and Addington, save one, petitioned against separation ; and that owing to the large settlement in rear of the Counties, the separation when it does take place, must be North and South not East and West. 'A little knowledge is a dangerous thing."

The venerable editor of the Whig was somewhat slow in

learning his lesson and the Standard was quick in bringing him again to task as it did in the following snappy editorial.

"The incorrigible Whig is at it again. Surely, 'a little dishonesty is a dangerous thing'. When one undertakes to correct another he should be careful that he is correct himself. But the fibbing propensity is so effectually developed in the venerable Doctor, that the kind reader must make some allowance for the shortness of his memory, as continued habit assumes the form of a necessity ; such is the danger of a little dishonesty."

"Instead of the Doctor's improving upon the castigation lately given him by us, he has gone farther and farther astray ; and in hopes, though faint, that he may be awakened to see his folly before he goes hence, we beg to remind him that he is grossly at fault in stating that 'all the Reeves and Deputy-Reeves of Lennox and Addington, save one, petitioned against separation'. A man that has any remaining sense of honor, character or reputation, ought to consider well the facts of the case which he publishes to the world and be sure that figures cannot be produced in refutation of his statements. It is enough simply for us to declare that the Doctor's statement is far from being the truth and the correction will be at his door."

"We would like that the Dr. give to the public something more tangible than his word and that miserable party petition which he quacks so much about that Addington does not want separation. Does he not know that it is as patent as the glasses on his nose, that Addington is only prevented in their official action towards separation by the artful dodge of a political aspirant and a clique of locality servers, in and around the village of Newburgh ?"

"If impatience be at any time, justifiable, we think that it is we and not the splenetic Doctor, should feel annoyed in view of the trickery, dodges and falsifying in vogue, for the promotion of self interests at the sacrifice of principle and general interests."

"We would like to see the one idea of the Doctor illustrated by diagram, for the information of those for whom he writes, and we recommend the Doctor to describe his East and West line of division, for it is not intelligible to us, the form his creative genius may give to the proposed county. On the whole it is plain to be seen 'that a little knowledge is a dangerous thing."

"We wonder how the Doctor likes his remedy !"

As intimated in the quotation given from the Spectator Mr. Roblin did give notice to refer the report upon separation back to the Private Bills Committee ; but the session was too far advanced for him to accomplish anything

towards the desired end ; so he contented himself just before prorogation with making a speech in which he exposed the motives underlying the opposition to the bill. The following is from the Standard's Quebec correspondent's comments upon Mr. Roblin's speech :—

"The amount collected in the United Counties for County purposes was in 1859 $23880 of which was paid by

Lennox	$5292)	$14388
Addington	$9096)	
Frontenac		$ 9492

Frontenac at the last census had 19150 inhabitants ; Addington 15155 ; Lennox 7955 ; thus these Counties paid per head :—

Frontenac	$0.49½
Addington	$0.59¾
Lennox	$0.65

"Taking Lennox and Addington together, they paid $0.62½ per head. All this while the city of Kingston paid $1200 to the counties, with a population of 11399 or about 10½ cents per head. No wonder, then, said Mr. Roblin that extraordinary means are used to prevent separation. Lawyers stepped in to take advantage of their neighbors' differences—they took the oyster for themselves, giving a shell each to Lennox and Addington (hear and laughter)".

The Standard did not whine over the defeat of separation and made little reference to the question again during the year 1860. It had by no means given up the fight but merely bided its time. In its editorials it adopted the wholesome practice of enunciating a general doctrine and getting the reader to subscribe to it, then applying it to the case in hand. Naturally the Standard would support Mr. Augustus Hooper in political matters, but it very skillfully prepared the way for a break with him, in case he presented himself as a candidate for parliamentary honors and in so doing illustrated the practice to which I refer. Where could you find more convincing arguments or a more wholesome doctrine than in the following extracts from an editorial of June 7th, 1860.

"Public men are public property and when men aspiring for public position assume to be, ex officio, secured from the criticism of the public, they claim to themselves an exclusiveness which the world is in no wise prepared to yield."

"If the public men from a sense of delicacy refuse to canvas the merits of the claims of office seekers, wherein is involved the public weal, a very sad delinquency is betrayed and an injury may be thus inflicted which can only by much patient endurance and vigorous effort, be counteracted. This is a regimen through which all public men are liable

to pass and many have to submit to the rigid scrutiny whether it be congenial to their sensitiveness or not and the man who is not prepared for the like process, had better forego the anticipated honors of public life."

"In the various departments of public life is this applicable but perhaps in no department is it more so than in the political sense."

Having carried the reader with him thus far the editor proceeds to explain the folly of Mr. Hooper in taking offence at the criticisms passed upon him by the Standard in respect to his opposition to separation.

"The position which we assumed in the late discussion of the county separation question brought us in contact with the late action of Mr. Hooper therein ; and if we thought our position was the correct one, why, of course, we would not approve of the course adopted by Mr. Hooper, to whom we look as the chief instrument in the defeat of the bill and for which he himself may yet have cause to regret.———We think every man ought to have fair play and upon this principle we wish to act."

"We take this opportunity of saying that upon political grounds we have not been influenced in this controversy. We profess very little political feeling and whether Mr. Hooper be of the old Conservative school, or a Coalitionist or a Reformer of the Baldwin school it is no matter of ours ; he has just as good a right to political bias as ourselves or anyone else and upon these premises he has no opposition from us ; the opposition, if any, was upon local grounds—county interests."

In the issue of April 11th, 1861, the Standard again summarizes the arguments in favor of separation, but avoids all direct reference to the vexed question of the County Town and touches very gingerly upon the local jealousies that defeated the Roblin Bill. Its policy was to get the municipalities committed to separation first and settle the question of the County Town afterwards. By a recent Act of Parliament Lennox and Addington had been incorporated as one County, but the union with Frontenac still existed. The question of separation was again to the fore and the indications pointed towards it being before the ratepayers at an early date. Although a plebiscite was not necessary ; yet it was advocated as a means of strengthening the hands of the petitioners for separation. It was through no fault of the Standard if the electors of this county did not fully understand the merits of the case. It again summarized the case as follows,—"The question heretofore seems to have been imperfectly understood and crudely considered, whether arising from the misrepresentations of interested parties or from the foolish jealousy

formerly existing between different parts of the county, or it may be from the facts of the case not being placed before the people in a clear and intelligible shape. It is quite clear that for many years the people of this county have been deprived of privileges enjoyed and freely granted to many counties in the Province less wealthy, smaller and more thinly settled, viz., of having justice administered to them at some convenient central place within their own limits ; this is our simple right, and one which ought to have been conceded long ago, agreeable to the wants and requirements of our extensive territory and large and increasing population. Instead of which we are wasting more and more of our time and money every year for the want of it. We think it can be conclusively demonstrated to the dullest apprehension that the loss and expense to the inhabitants of this county caused by having their County Town forty miles from the average residences of the people, quite equal to the utmost expense, if separated to-morrow and Frontenac was presented with the whole of our joint property."

"But there are other considerations ; Frontenac has about the same number of inhabitants that we have, with larger territory and an equal number of reeves ; yet in the payment of expenses and taxes, we have to pay three dollars to their two and within the last ten years have actually deposited in the treasury at the city of Kingston thirty thousand dollars more than the County of Frontenac. There is some debt existing against the United Counties, of which we are paying three-fifths and will continue to do so, besides in the end are likely (if all is even paid) to be turned out when the separation does come (as it is only a question of time) with naked hands, yielding the county's buildings and other improvements to the Frontenac people, having paid three-fifths of all their cost and after that, at our own expense, putting up our own buildings. By separation now we can take such portion of the county's debt as we ought to pay, if any, and assume it at once, reserving our extra money which we have been so long paying to Frontenac to scatter in their new and poor townships and build our own county buildings with it ; the surplus money in eight years will do it all, if we assume half the county's debt and make them over the whole of the present extravagant county buildings at Kingston, without putting on one penny of extra tax on the inhabitants of the county."

"In the event of a separation, our expenses would on almost every point be reduced, the principal outlay would be the county buildings and those may be erected at a moderate cost, say three or four thousand pounds, if use

and not show was the object sought ; the whole cost of which would be more than saved by the county at large in a single year. The salaries of the Judge, Sheriff and other officers of the court are paid by fees, so that there would be no additional cost on that head."

"The benefit of having our county business transacted at home among ourselves must be obvious to all. In every well regulated community periodical Courts of Justice are a necessity and it does not require the most discriminating persons to see that Courts held in some central locality in our own county, when jurors, witnesses and suitors would be released in four days at most at any one time, is quite preferable to travelling from twenty-five to ninety miles to the city of Kingston and be detained there from two to three weeks and until fifty cases have been decided, not ten of which properly belong to us. Consequently, while the expenditure in separating the counties can be defrayed once and for all for the moderate sum of three or four thousand pounds, we are wasting much more than that every year we continue united."

"The principle of separation has been frequently admitted and declared by both Lennox and Addington while they were separate counties and that the question has only been retarded by local jealousies, which have heretofore existed, groundless as they have been, to some considerable extent. We trust, however, that hereafter all petty local feelings on the subject will be avoided and that the question will be viewed, discussed and decided upon its merits, only as affecting the whole county."

For the balance of the year of 1861 the Standard was silent on its favorite subject. A general election was held in July. The candidates who presented themselves at the opening of the campaign were John Stevenson, Augustus Hooper and David Roblin. Just before nomination Mr. Stevenson withdrew from the contest leaving the field to Hooper and Roblin. We expected to find the Standard opposing Hooper owing to his having opposed separation, but it managed to maintain a strictly independent position and gave no support to either candidate. The editor probably concluded that it would be unwise to mix separation and politics. He saw the futility of dividing the county on party lines upon a question which should be supported by everyone in the county, in order to present a solid front against the opposing forces in Frontenac and Kingston. As Hooper was elected by a large majority the wisdom of the policy of the Standard is quite manifest. The question was not revived in the press until the issue of August 28th, 1862, when the leading editorial showed that the long continued silence of the writer was not to

be mistaken for indifference. He evidently had been chafing for months biding his time to strike. As was his custom he approached the question very gently saying among other things :—

"Our county is not far behind the best and most enterprising in this fair land, but it must not be forgotten that there are difficulties which must be removed ere we can fully enjoy the advantage of the facilities afforded it for improvement."

"Look at our county geographically, or statistically, look at it in the length of time it has been settled, or in the wealth and intelligence of the inhabitants, or in what view you please and compare it with other counties possessing all the privileges and advantages of independent counties and tell us, does it suffer in comparison with them? We think not." He concludes his able editorial with a strong series of arguments not heretofore advanced by him. In its efforts to arouse the people of the county to the necessity and importance of separation the Standard certainly displayed great tact and enterprise.

"We must have our county set off from Frontenac. We should be no longer compelled to feed the latter with our business as we must do, so long as we remain in our present situation."

"The effect of remaining as we now are is, that we are stultified in our own estimation, as well as in the estimation of others. Indeed, it appears that the Kingstonians are disposed almost to ignore our existence but as a sort of trifling to their great county. Notwithstanding a very large export and import business done both at our port and railroad depot, some of the newspapers of our indulgent mother city would have our port closed, as a regular port of entry and would have us trudge to Kingston to do our excise duty, as well as to attend court and do other necessary business. The truth is, although we are equally important and wealthy with them, they have come to the conclusion that we think little of ourselves and as a consequence they can use us as they see fit. To stand up firmly for our position—to ask for a separate existence and have it, is our plain duty and must be done before Lennox and Addington can attain to that lofty position of which it is capable."

"To speak of the expense to which we would be driven in the erection of buildings, support of a full staff of county officials, etc., is to talk of refusing to take a step which, whatever may be the present cost, will remunerate before the county has time fully to organize. Remuneration will arise in many ways but the actual increase of value of property in the county alone will more than counter-

balance all the expenditure which would be necessitated at the beginning of our separate existence. We go for secession and are pleased to know that the constitution does not deny it to us but has made provision for it."

"We trust that our citizens generally, and our municipalities in their corporate capacity, will take action in this matter and that we shall soon see Lennox and Addington in some chosen and favorably situated centre, adorned and beautified with such county buildings as may be deemed requisite."

"The honor due to our ancestors and the interests of this fine county demand it and we look soon to know that the enterprise of our people expressed in a legitimate way has secured it."

In 1863 the time was ripe for a renewal of the struggle before the Governor-in-Council. Thanks largely to the efforts of the Standard in keeping the question before the public and discouraging local differences over the site of the county town, all sections of the county had been brought to a realization of the fact that Lennox and Addington was sorely handicapped by the union with Frontenac. At a meeting of all the reeves and deputy reeves of the county held at Napanee on the 10th of February, 1863, a resolution in favor of again petitioning the Governor-in-Council, was carried unanimously, and the petition was forwarded accordingly.

After the presentation of the petition it was the duty of the Governor, if he deemed the circumstances such as to call for a separate establishment of courts and county institutions, to issue a proclamation constituting the reeves and deputy-reeves a provisional council and to appoint a time and place for the fist meeting of the council and to name one of its members as the presiding officer and to determine the place for and the name of the County Town. Weeks passed and no proclamation issued. The air was full of politics, the Government was tottering and the Governor's advisers doubtless thought they had more important business to transact than to settle the little family quarrel that had arisen in the United Counties of Frontenac, Lennox and Addington. Then there was the excuse that the County Town had not been agreed upon. The Governor could, if he saw fit to do so, name any place in the county; but he would naturally prefer to make a wise selection, and one that would meet with the approval of a majority of the inhabitants. No procedure was laid down by the statute for his guidance. To hasten the issuing of the proclamation a meeting of the reeves and deputy-reeves was again called to make a final effort to agree upon a County Town. Two new contestants,

Bath and Tamworth, had entered the field. Bath in its day had been the most important business centre in the county, and not many years had passed since it prided itself in being the commercial centre of Lennox and Addington. The merchants from all the other villages were wont to replenish their stocks from the well filled warehouses at Bath. The village, however, had already begun to live upon its past ; which is now but a faint memory. Its courts, schools, shipyards and commercial houses were once the objects of envy of the villages farther inland, but the building of the Grand Trunk Railway several miles distant had sounded the death knell of the old village. But the pride of the Bathites had not diminished and they still had hopes of regaining their lost prestige and had visions of a beautiful Court House overlooking the shores of the Bay of Quinte.

Tamworth had pretentions that were justified by its geographical position if we took no account of the character of the soil of the northern part of the county or the number of the inhabitants upon it. No one but a visionary enthusiast like Ebenezer Perry would have put forth such a claim. He was responsible for the active measures taken to introduce settlers into Denbigh and the neighboring townships, was the originator of the Addington Colonization Road still spoken of as the Perry Road, and had great hopes of some day seeing those northern districts converted into rich agricultural settlements. He was reeve of Sheffield at the time, and may be pardoned for having rather exaggerated views of the possibilities of his pet project.

After much wire pulling and canvassing of the situation from all points of view the representatives met in Napanee on April 16th. At this meeting the supporters of Bath concluded that their case was a hopeless one, and no resolution in favor of selecting their village was presented. Out of fifteen votes, Tamworth secured but five. Two of these were of course the reeve and deputy-reeve of Sheffield, one was the representative of the northern townships, and strange to say one representative from Camden and the reeve of Newburgh supported the motion. The motives of these last two are clearly discernable even at this late day. They did not vote according to their convictions or with the least expectation that Tamworth would be chosen. They knew it was impossible ; but they hoped to catch the three northern votes when their resolution was put to the meeting. Newburgh's reeve felt that he could not at that meeting secure a majority of votes in favor of his village, so, instead of moving that Newburgh be chosen, he brought forward a resolution through the representative

from Camden that the selection of the county seat be left to the vote of the people. His policy was to gain time in the hope that something might turn up to improve Newburgh's chances of securing a majority of the votes. The ruse, however, was not successful. The three northern representatives voted against this resolution and it was lost. Then the original motion that Napanee be chosen was put to the meeting and carried by a majority of three, the three northern men again refusing to be led into the trap laid for them by the reeve of Newburgh.

The Standard in commenting upon the proceedings at this meeting, after repeating the arguments in favor of separation, endeavored to pour oil upon the troubled waters. The article concluded with :—

"We have not paid much attention to the question of the chances of Napanee being the county seat, because we thought from the first that it was almost certain and did not wish to raise discussion, which could answer no good purpose. Our contemporary, the North American, has pursued the same course, as, till last week we have not noticed that he mentioned the matter. His reference to the subject last week is mild but characteristic of the village which he represents. There is a union of sentiment and action amongst our neighbors in Newburgh and a willingness to make personal sacrifices for the good of their village which we might well emulate."

"But it is a question to us after all whether the Newburghers would like to have their village named as the head of this large and important county. Its inaccessibility alone would be a sufficient reason, if, when reached, it was equal in other respects to Napanee, to make the choice a very bad one."

"No doubt their good sense and desire for the general good will prevail over sectional considerations and bring them to co-operate in the establishment of the County Town where destiny appears to have fixed it."

"The resolutions of the reeves of the county passed on Saturday were duly forwarded to Mr. Hooper, our worthy member, with a request that he will urge the Government to act upon the measure with as little delay as possible. We hope that no counter-influence, or appearance of want of concert on the part of leading parties in the county, will prevent the consumation of an arrangement so vital to the interests of the county."

Mr. Hooper, the member, was thus called upon to play an entirely different role from that the Standard accused Mr. Hooper, the Warden, of playing three years before. We have no reason to doubt that he was true to his constituents and presented the petition and urged the

Government to act upon it, although it must have gone somewhat against the grain to ask that Napanee be named as the County Town. He can hardly be held responsible for the delay, when we remember that three weeks later the Government was defeated upon a motion of want of confidence introduced by the Hon. John A. Macdonald.

The Standard in a very sensible editorial summed up the political crisis in few words and fore-shadowed Federation which followed three years later.

"We have never taken sides with or against the present Government. In many respects we thought them equal to their predecessors and have not changed our opinion. But either they or their too warm friends promised too much; more than they had energy to accomplish. The truth is, as we are situated in connection with Lower Canada, it is impossible to do much to mend matters. Form any Government you please, and as the Brown-Dorion a few years ago, and the Macdonald-Sicotte of the present day, promise as they may, they cannot do as they would. The elements are adverse and cannot coalesce. You never can make an Upper Canada Protestant constituency to be satisfied with the doings of its member, who must work in harmony with a Lower Canada Romanist. It is out of the question. Some arrangement must be entered into by which each section can manage its own local affairs and by which matters affecting the country as a whole, may be settled by a general representative body from all parts concerned."

"A Federation of the different parts of British North America is the only cure for the miserable state of things which exist."

The election which followed was a hot one. The candidates in Lennox and Addington were Augustus Hooper and R. J. Cartwright (Sir Richard). The Standard was not at all satisfied with Mr. Hooper's record in the House, particularly his absenting himself when the vote of want of confidence was taken. It is not at all probable either that the position he had taken on separation in 1860 had been fully erased from the memory of the editor. It accordingly supported Mr. Cartwright, with the result that the candidate of its choice was elected by a majority of 285.

During the long fight for separation there were many side issues of more or less importance of which the press appears to have taken little notice. Notably among these was the desire of Amherst Island to secede from Lennox and Addington in case separation was effected. The Island township was the only one not represented at the meeting in February when the resolution favoring separation was

unanimously adopted. A great deal can be said in favor of the position taken by the Islanders. Their business relations had always been more closely allied with Kingston than with any portion of Lennox and Addington. Kingston was nearer and more easily reached than any point in Lennox and Addington that was likely to be chosen as the County Town, and it was quite natural in the event of separation that they should desire to remain associated with that part of the United Counties with which they had been more intimately connected.

Another incident which may have had a tendency to delay matters was the somewhat stubborn attitude of the reeve of Newburgh after the meeting which fixed upon Napanee as the County Town. He was a man not easily moved when he had set his heart upon any particular object and he was evidently ill at ease over his failure to secure the votes of the northern townships with the aid of which he had hoped to carry the day. Instead of submitting to the inevitable and taking his defeat gracefully, he caused his village council to petition the Government to defer the question. Mr. Stevenson met this with a counter-petition executed on behalf of seven of the municipalities pointing out the many delays that had already taken place, and submitting that any further delay would be detrimental to the interests of all the localities involved.

Finally on the 21st day of August, 1863, the long wished for proclamation was issued and separation became an accomplished fact. John Stevenson was then named as the person to preside at the first meeting of the Provisional Council and Napanee was fixed as the County Town.

The Standard which had for years made separation the pre-eminent local issue and might well have taken to itself much of the credit for the victory, expressed its gratification with the result and concluded its announcement with :—

"With regard to the County Town, there can be but one opinion and that is, that the proper place has been selected. We trust that all local jealousies will now cease on this head and that the Provisional Council will enter upon their new duties in a proper spirit and with a view to the welfare of the whole county."

The timely advice in this editorial did not pass unheeded. On the 10th of September, the day named in the proclamation for the first meeting, the Provisional Council met and burying all former animosities proceeded at once to organize and get ready for business. Mr. Stevenson was elected Warden, and Mr. William V. Detlor Clerk. The

personel of this the first council was as follows :—J. J. Watson, of Adolphustown ; J. McGinnis, Amherst Island ; W. F. Peterson, Bath ; S. Warner, Ernesttown, Reeve ; C. Fraser, Deputy Reeve ; D. Sills, South Fredericksburgh ; M. Parks, North Fredericksburgh ; J. N. Lapum, Camden, Reeve ; G. Paul, Deputy Reeve ; J. D. Ham, Newburgh ; E. Perry, Sheffield, Reeve ; J. Murphy, Deputy Reeve ; C. R. Flint, Kaladar & Anglesea ; J. Sexsmith, Richmond, Reeve ; R. Denison, Deputy Reeve ; J. Stevenson, Napanee.

It is quite possible that half a century has added something to the reputation of these men and that we give them credit for having been bigger men than they really were. Making all due allowance for an unconscious exaggeration of their merits we are forced to the conclusion that the standard of municipal representatives was higher sixty years ago than it is to-day. There are notable exceptions to-day where good business men are prevailed upon to accept nomination for municipal honors ; but as a rule such men as Sidney Warner, John D. Ham, John Stevenson, J. J. Watson and Ebenezer Perry are rarely found sitting at the council table. The wonder is that our municipal affairs are not more muddled than they are. The one year term is largely responsible for the inefficiency in many cases. It is to be hoped that the time is not far distant when the affairs of all municipalities will be placed on a business basis and managed by a competent and well paid business manager. It was fortunate for our county that it started out upon its separate career under the guidance of such shrewd practical men. The erection of the county buildings was proceeded with at once by the building committee, composed of the Warden and Messrs. Warner, Sills, Denison, Perry, Ham, Lapum and Watson. They were completed at a minimum of cost, and stand to-day as a monument of the good taste of the builders. The affairs of the new municipality moved along smoothly, local jealousies were soon forgotten, and all worked together for the general welfare of the entire county.

The Standard content with its success did not gloat over its victory, but pursued the even tenor of its way and continued to grow in favor with its readers. From the very beginning it was a very creditable sheet, but there was a marked improvement when it passed into the Henry family in 1858. The three brothers, Thomas S., Alexander and Robert, were interested in it more or less from the time of the purchase until it ceased to exist in 1885. For many years Mr. Thomas W. Casey was on the staff, and was the author of the articles upon temperance. These were so numerous and well written that the Standard

became recognized as an authority upon all temperance questions by the different organizations in the province fighting the liquor traffic. It was quite natural therefore that when the Sons of Temperance concluded to publish an official organ, that Mr. Casey should be chosen as the editor, and that it should be printed upon the press of Henry & Bro., in the office of the Standard.

It was thus that the Casket first made its appearance in 1869, and for fourteen years was the official mouthpiece of the Sons of Temperance. It is difficult to estimate the important part played by this temperance organ in its intensive, educative campaign during the fourteen years it was published. The files among the archives of our Society are still sought after by the leading temperance workers in Ontario. During the past few months a prominent lecturer and writer asked for and was given the privilege of making copious extracts from them. The Standard did not, however, lose its character as a temperance newspaper, but continued to publish much of the matter that was printed in the columns of the Casket.

Mr. F. R. Yokome, for many years the managing editor of the Peterborough Examiner, was responsible for many of the leading editorials which contributed to the high standing the Standard acquired among the provincial newspapers of its time. Among the number who graduated from its press-room were the late William Templeton and George M. Beeman, the founders of the Napanee Beaver.

THE REFORMER

The Reformer, as its name indicated, was an out-and-out Liberal newspaper. In a lengthy and well written prospectus, the proprietors left no doubt as to their leanings, but, as is usual with politicians and newspapers, they reserved certain rights to act independently, which rights, as is usual too, they rarely exercised. While no mention of any contemporary is made in the prospectus, yet its publication in Napanee was a direct challenge to the Standard and was so interpreted by the editor of the latter. The first number was issued in September, 1854, and it was not many weeks before the rival sheets began to pay their respects to each other. When they got into a real controversy over any subject they did not hesitate at times to use language that would not pass muster in the drawing rooms of polite society. "Leather-headed contemporary across the street" was a quite modest reference to the editor of one, who in equally expressive terms replied to the "Contemptible Rag". As a rule, however, they refrained from using such abusive epithets, and pre-

sented their arguments in a proper but forceful manner.

Upon one subject they did agree and that was the question of separation of the county, but even upon that they found occasion to differ now and then in respect to the manner of presenting the case. Both took special delight in hammering away at the Index of Newburgh if it dared to say a word upon the subject not in harmony with their views. As early as February, 1856, the Index declared, "If Addington consents to the separation she will see to it that she has the County Town situated within her own limits". The Reformer was waiting for such an opening and in its next issue thus replied to this bold assertion : "We would ask in the name of wonder, providing the separation be ratified, where would the County Town be situated ? Certainly our contemporary cannot imagine, for a moment, that the inhabitants of these counties would consent that Rogues Hollow should be thus honored ! And yet, from his language, that would be inferred. Mighty Moses ! How some folks aspire ! It reminds us of a fable, how preposterous the idea !"

"In way of consolation to our friend of Newburgh, we just remark that we cannot blame him in striving to uphold the interests of his darling village, for it is natural so to do, but that must be considered a very poor pretext indeed, for asserting it to be the proper place for the County Town. Perhaps there is not an individual residing three miles on this side of that place who has an occasion to visit the ambitious village twice a year and probably very many who live in the western part of Camden much oftener visit Napanee than they do Newburgh—doing so with greater ease. Newburgh's advantage as a market is very inferior, which fact is easily substantiated. On the contrary our advantages are, or soon will be, in that respect all that can be desired, showing superabundant advantages over our aspiring neighbors. This fact is so well established that it needs no controversy, and all that may be said by our contemporary, hereafter, cannot, in any way, affect these verities. A thing once substantiated by self evident truths cannot be refuted. Our neighbor, therefore, may as well rest content with his present position, for we predict he will never see the day when Newburgh will be honored as a County Town."

The rising generation perhaps have never pictured to themselves a Napanee without a railway or a Town Hall. In the issue of the Reformer of November 28th, 1855, the editor refers to both of these innovations. In commenting upon a dinner at Brockville celebrating the completion of the Grand Trunk from Montreal to that town the editor concludes an article with :—

"Our time is near at hand. The tide of trade will soon be swept in this direction and we shall certainly reap many advantages by a more convenient mode of transport. Shall we be benefited as a village? Answer, that, those who can. We say, yes! but not by nor through our present selfish tight fisted old fogeyism which reigns and rules; but by the rise and influx of enterprise. Napanee has advantages which must be available and somebody will find it out first, who will it be?"

The Standard in dealing with the same subject passed a very timely criticism upon the bridge in Napanee:— "The splendid and massive masonry of the piers and arches elevated a great height above the river, will be an ornament to the place. The only visible objection, that I am aware of in its construction, is a pier in the centre of the macadamized road, endangering the lives of those who may happen to come in contact with it on a dark night, or whose horses may run away down the hill. A few years ago the stage drawn by four horses and loaded with passengers, ran from the top of the hill, passed over the bridge and in turning the curve of the road the stage upset, injuring several of the passengers and nearly killing one of them. Similar accidents have frequently occurred, and will again happen only with more fatal effects, unless this pier be removed."

In referring to the work upon the Town Hall, the Reformer said, "The contractors of the new Town Hall and market building, have, within the last few days, made a commencement by breaking ground for the foundation. The building, however, will not be commenced until next spring, when it will be proceeded with rapidly, the principal part of the joiner work, etc., being done through the winter. The principal front is, at present, intended to be towards John St.

The ratepayers were by no means unanimous as to the wisdom of erecting such a building. In one issue a correspondent writes: "Is it expedient to involve our infant municipality in a heavy debt, requiring for its liquidation, an annual average tax for ten years of eight and three-fourths pence in the pound in addition to the regular and ordinary taxes?"

"Will such an annual payment not have a tendency to depreciate the value of real estate to that extent, unless a corresponding advantage can be obtained from the works to be erected with the money."

As originally constructed the upper storey was as at present, an auditorium, but the lower storey was divided up into a number of butcher stalls, hence the reference to the "Town Hall and market."

Another heavy ratepayer attacks the Council through the columns of the Reformer, as follows :—

"Look to your market, see the blunders committed there, and that too in the face of a protest by the contractors themselves. Do they dig a sufficient depth to insure a solid foundation, have they specified that the part designed as market shall be finished ? The beams that project beyond the walls are they to be covered ? Have they planned the roof sufficiently strong to insure safety ? I tell you people of Napanee, nay, they have done nothing of the kind ; and I predict, if put up according to the plan and specifications, in less than five years it will tumble in ruins."

The old building has outlived the writer of that article by many years, and is still far from the ruins he predicted. The concluding paragraph of his letter of criticism is not without interest :—

"I am told that the contract is left open, that alterations and additions may be made and for these alterations and additions I have no doubt we shall, at least, have to pay a thousand dollars, which added to the debt already incurred will be a serious burden upon the village, but in my opinion this is not their greatest blunder. Seventeen licenses and a bowling alley ? People of Napanee think of it ? Think of the amount of drunkeness visible at all times by means of this system. Tell us, has there been an arrest made when the offenders were not half-seas over and then tell us by your vote at the coming election whether you approve of the conduct of the men that have brought all these things upon us ?"

The population of Napanee at the time was under eleven hundred. Let us picture to ourselves, if we can, seventeen bar-rooms in a village of a little over one thousand inhabitants, and we will scarcely find room for wonder that the temperance advocates were loud in their denunciation of the liquor traffic. In this connection another correspondent in a later issue enquires from the editor "whether the habit of drunkness does not stigmatize men with immorality ? If so, how are drunken school teachers permitted to continue in an office of such responsibility ? This state of affairs is annoying and morally pestilential and should not be tolerated, at least, such is my opinion."

There was scarcely an issue of any of the early papers that did not contain one or more articles on the temperance question. The Reformer was no exception to the rule. It also had its poetry column and a contributor to that column who did not hesitate to style himself a poet.

In the first issue of 1855 he thus eulogizes the Good Templars :—

My friends accept a poet's praise,
Nor it unworthy deem,
'Tis all a grateful heart can raise,
Though humble it may seem ;
It is the sentiment of one,
Who loves your noble cause,
Who views the work that you have done
And grants you his applause.

Your object is benign and pure,
Designed to bless our race,
Their highest interests to secure,
And save them from disgrace,
'Tis to remove the maddening cup
That leads to misery,
To raise the fettered drunkard up
And set the captive free.

Your labour is a work of love
Where words and deeds unite,
The rules of Temperance to prove
And guide mankind aright,
To break the drunkards' poisoned bowl,
The moderate drunker stay,
To rescue him 'ere past control,
And take the curse away.

Ye are a band of noble hearts
With noble deeds in view
Who gladly would to all impart
The joys that dwell with you,
Ye would most gladly wipe the tears,
From every weeping eye
Remove the anxious mother's fears
And stay the orphan's cry.

The drunkard's midnight orgies cease,
At your supreme command ;
The swearer's voice is hushed to peace
Calmed by your magic hand,
The beast departs, the man returns
When brought to own your sway.
His baser pleasures then he spurns
And turns from them away.

Press onward ye heroic throng
Proclaim the drunkard free,
And push your glorious cause along

Till all its worth may see,
Respected stand throughout our land ;
The advocate of right,
And when at last your work is past,
In glory all unite.

The Reformer was not a financial success. In fact there was not room at that time for two newspapers in Napanee. The Standard was first in the field and had secured a goodly number of subscribers. It was never offensively partisan in its views and was thus able to hold its subscribers even if its views differed at times from theirs. It was published by natives of Napanee which counted for something. The Reformer was ably edited and under more favorable conditions might have weathered the storm. The proprietors, Messrs. Carman & Bro., were not local men, and after struggling hard for several years to place the paper on a paying basis the plant was removed and they sought their fortune in more promising surroundings.

THE BANTLING

M. E. H.

When on Christmas Day, 1858, a Mr. F. M. Blakely offered to the people of Napanee specimen copies of a new paper, the promise conveyed in the title was to amuse rather than to instruct. From a Bantling, nothing of a very serious nature could be expected, and Mr. Blakely evidently had that saving sense of humor that can enjoy a joke even at one's own expense ; for his paper began with a jest, jested through its brief career and died like Mercutio with the bravest jest of all.

In conformity too with its name the Bantling is an unusually small paper of four three-column pages, just one-quarter the dimensions of an ordinary news sheet. The prospectus announces that it "will present, every week, an agreeable melange of the notable events and literature of the day, its columns will always contain a goodly selection of the cream of domestic and foreign news, so condensed as to present the largest possible amount of intelligence in the smallest space—the whole, well spiced with wit and humour. In politics and upon all sectarian questions it will be strictly impartial." In a later issue, the editor points out to correspondents that there are some lines to be drawn even by the strictly impartial ; "We would inform our party correspondents, however, that we are not particularly fond of communications which are filled with abuse, calling their opponents thieves, rogues, liars, etc., as it only creates a hard feeling."

The front page of the Bantling was devoted to two departments, and that there might be no confusion the departments were headed by appropriate woodcuts, clearly labelled "Poetry" and "Literature" respectively. Most of the literature belongs to the Sam Slick school of dialect humor, varied occasionally by a highly moral tale about poor virtuous little Jemmie or the "R. R. Conductor's lesson—an admonition to incivility"—items that must have made pious Aunt Mehitabel beam with gracious approval. Only once, in the issue of Feb. 26th, has this page anything of local interest. Like every other Napanee paper, the Bantling takes a fling at Newburgh, in a fanciful set of "Rules and Regulations of the Napanee and Newburgh Railroad". Newburgh at this time was smarting under the disappointment of having failed to persuade the Grand Trunk Railway to run its line through that village, and the following suggestions would not tend to soothe the disgruntled population.

"A through train will leave the log barn, used as station house, at Slab City, at 7 a.m. and arrive at Newburgh at 10 p.m., leaving Newburgh next morning and arrive at Slab City when it gets there."

"A local train will leave Mink's Bridge for Bowers' Mills every morning at 9 a.m. and return the same evening; thus giving the people a chance to do business and return by daylight. Thus parties can go the same distance, in the same length of time as they formerly could on foot without the trouble of walking, except up the heavy grades."

"Passengers taking live stock, such as pigs, sheep or other tender animals on the passenger train, must take two days' provisions (in case of accident) as the company will not be responsible nor pay for any animals that may starve to death on the journey."

"Passengers are strictly forbid getting out of the cars when in full motion or running ahead, as the cars will not stop for any such when it catches up."

"Persons driving teams (either oxen or horses) are strictly forbid running by the train while in full motion without first asking leave of the engineer to pass."

"Farmers' wives wishing to trade, with the conductor, butter, eggs, rags, vegetables, or anything else for groceries, patent medicines or tinware, must signify their wish to do so by displaying a red flag, and it shall be the duty of the engineer to stop the train."

"Women are requested not to hang clothes lines across the road nor in any way to stop the train."

"In consequence of the Grand Trunk Railway Company not having built a branch road to Newburgh, the directors

of the Napanee and Newburgh Railroad will have no connection with the Grand Trunk whatever."

The second and third pages contain the "Cream of the Domestic and Foreign News", correspondence and what few advertisements were inserted, while the fourth page displayed the "Wit and Humor" under the title "Mirth's Melange" with an occasional generous repetition of the third page advertisements to fill up space. The domestic news was skimmed with a very sparing hand, for except the municipal elections and an occasional fire, there is very little of local interest. The election results also called forth a display of local talent. The issue of Jan. 15th contains a melancholy ode, "On the downfall of the Radicals", in the following strain :—

> Oh bloodiest picture in the book of time,
> Bill Miller fell unwept, without a crime,
> Hope for a season bade the world farewell,
> And Forward shrieked as Wm. Detlor fell,
> Departed spirits of the mighty dead,
> Ye that at Napanee elections bled,
> Oh once again your freedom's cause fulfill,
> And put in William, Dave, Bob, Hank and Bill.

In the space devoted to foreign news, we have gossip about the Empress Eugenie's crinoline, the contemplated tour of the Prince of Wales, P. T. Barnum's lectures on money making and the birth and christening of the Kaiser. Later this is superseded by news of Italy's war of liberation against Austria. On this subject, there are some rather able editorials, parts of which are strangely applicable to-day. In the issue of May 28th we find, "and who that ever read of the demoniac doings of Austria in these classic lands—who that can believe that high minded and earnest lovers of their country are enraptured and snared into the utterance of their yearnings, only that they may be made the victims of Austrian bullets or Austrian ropes !—but we must wish those who are the seeming champions of a better order of things "God speed". Let no needless complications arise, let the issue be based fairly and truly on the regeneration of Italy, and liberty cannot be but more fully assured", and in the number for July 9th, "Peace must be restored ere long or the whole of Europe will be drawn in the great struggle, and then, alas, where will it end ?"

The Bantling itself did not survive to see the restoration of peace. In the next issue, that of July 16th, there appeared in the editorial column, surrounded by heavy black lines, the following pathetically witty notice :—

"Obituary—It is our painful duty to record the last week of a Mr. Bantling, who breathed its last on the 16th of July, 1859, after a lingering sickness of 6 months and 21 days. The remains of Mr. Bantling will be removed from this office—followed by its numerous mourners—to its final rest. It is to be hoped the shops will be closed when the procession is moving and a general mourning be observed by all our citizens. It is lamentable that one so young, just blooming into life, should be cut off from the world ; but disease seized him with an iron grasp and held on till the last 'breath of wind' reluctantly departed from his body."

THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICAN

Many a man with a fairly good business reputation has failed in the newspaper business, and this was never better illustrated than in the case of Mr. Geo. W. McMullen, who was foolish enough to believe that the village of Newburgh could support a second paper. It was just before the separation of the counties was effected that he ventured forth in the journalistic world as the proprietor and editor of the British North American. He surely must have seen visions of the rapid expansion of the village when it was to become the county seat. It was no fault of his paper that it did not attain that distinction. He entered the arena when the fight was fiercest and supported the claims of the village and the final efforts of its reeve to side-track the question until some new means could be devised for bettering Newburgh's prospects. The formidable title of his paper and his over-zealous efforts could not stay the trend of public opinion. Newburgh lost the day and the British North American's visions of a populous county town springing up in Rogues Hollow quickly faded away, and Mr. McMullen's cherished weakling soon departed this life from the want of sufficient nourishment.

THE LENNOX AND ADDINGTON LEDGER

The Lennox and Addington Ledger advertised itself to be the largest county newspaper in Central Canada. It was a large four page, eight column paper first published in Napanee in 1864, by two young men who committed the initial blunder of launching it as an independent paper in the belief that the people of this county could possibly forget their political leanings. Their conception of what a newspaper should be was all right, but their measure of the electors of Lennox and Addington was all wrong.

The editorials were well written and their summaries of passing events were concise and readable. In one

number before the writer, appears a report of the first assizes in the county. The Court House was not built so the court was held in the Town Hall. The presiding judge was the Hon. Adam Wilson, who congratulated the county upon taking its place among the separate and independent municipalities of the Province. The first criminal case disposed of was The Queen against John Hoolighan, in which the prisoner was charged with robbery and attempted stabbing. His victim was none other than our respected octogenarian, John B. Blanchard, still a resident of Napanee. The accused was found guilty and sentenced to be hanged, but upon the recommendation of the grand jury his mental condition was afterwards inquired into, and he was found to be insane, so the sentence of the court was not put into effect. There was a large docket which in itself justified one of the strongest arguments in support of separation. That was the great waste of time and money in attending court at Kingston.

In a leading editorial in the issue of March 25th, 1865, the editor sounded a note of warning which if heeded might have resulted in forestalling the Fenian Raid of the following year :—

"Notwithstanding the oft repeated assertion that such a thing as Fenianism does not exist in Canada, it is quite evident that there are those residing in the country who would not flinch from any act, which according to their ideas, would free Ireland from the chains of her oppresser —England ! On the evening of St. Patrick's Day this was fully exemplified by a meeting in the Music Hall, Toronto, where a young yankee blow-hard named McDermott, from New York, delivered an address before the Hibernian Society. During two hours and a half he dealt out to them liberal potations of such treasonable ravings as "The Fenians were organized for the express purpose of achieving the independence of Ireland, and they are as confident of being able to do so as they are that the sun will rise to-morrow. They are also certain that a war will take place before long between England and the United States and then they would strike for the liberty of Ireland." He also advised his hearers to do all in their power to form a republic in this country and then be annexed to the United States."

"It is very much to be regretted that we have in our midst men who have so little respect for truth that they will for two hours and a half endure the affliction of an itinerant Yankee lecturer's bombastic productions and nonsensical treason."

From the want of that financial support, without which

no enterprise can long exist, the Ledger was obliged to suspend publication after a brief but very respectable career of only a few months.

THE ADDINGTON REPORTER

The Addington Reporter which later on changed its name to The Newburgh Reporter, demonstrated that it is possible to maintain a newspaper in a small village for a number of years. The first number was published in May, 1875, by W. J. Pappa & Bro., two Newburgh young men who had received some experience in the office of the Beaver.

In glancing over the few numbers upon our files it is quite apparent that the secret of its success, assuming that existence for a number of years, implies success, was in the local news. There were columns of items telling all about what was going on in the village, just the sort of news that people talk about on the street corners, so that a perusal of the Reporter was to the ordinary housewife as good as an hour's chat with her neighbor over the backyard fence. That particular part of the paper from which it was most difficult to withdraw the writer's attention was the market reports. In these meatless, heatless, wheatless days with war prices, how we long for the good old days when a dollar would go so far. The following are samples of the prices we shall never see again.

Ham, 12c. to 15c. per lb.
Mutton, 6c. per lb.
Lamb, 7c. per lb.
Butter, 18c. to 22c. per lb.
Eggs, 4c. per doz.
Chickens, 25c. to 30c. per pair.
New Potatoes, 50c. per bag.
Apples, $1.00 to $1.50 per barrel.

The Reporter ventured now and then to deal through its editorial column with the leading public questions of the day, but as a rule the editor confined himself to local issues. Of the twenty eight columns only eight were advertising matter, and a large percentage of that was not the profitable kind. The Pappa Bros., however, managed to keep it going for over five years, when the plant was leased to an employee of the office. A few months were sufficient to convince him that the Reporter was dying a natural death. It finally succumbed, and no one has been brave enough to attempt to publish a paper in Newburgh since its demise.

THE ECHO

The Echo could hardly be classed among the early newspapers of the county, yet it was a pioneer in its own territory, being the first and only newspaper ever published in Tamworth. If others take warning from its fate, it is likely to be able to claim the distinction for a long time to come of being the last to be published in that part of the county. It first made its bow to the public in Mill Point (Deseronto) in 1877, as the Mill Point Echo, but as the Mill Pointers did not give it the support its proprietor seemed to think it merited, it suddenly departed one September morning in 1879, and made its appearance in Tamworth under the shorter title "The Echo".

In the first issue appeared the notice of a by-law to be submitted to the ratepayers of Sheffield, providing for the granting of a bonus of $10,000 to the Napanee, Tamworth and Quebec Railway Company. In his first editorial the editor who had been provided with his arguments from the Mill Point end of the railway scheme said :—

"The importance of the rear townships to the front towns has been long well understood by the frontier, but just how the towns and cities of the front may be made a great source of benefit and wealth to the rear villages and townships, is only lately taken practical shape and becoming a matter of vast interest." If the ratepayers of the front towns and rear townships, who voted away their money, to bring the extremes of the county in closer touch, could have forseen how it has worked out, I fear the majorities would have been against these by-laws that were submitted in the various municipalities along the line of the railway.

To-day there is a daily regular passenger service connecting the rear of our county with the city of Kingston ; but no practicable timetable for those who wish to visit their own county town.

In glancing over the advertisements, we were forcibly struck by the many changes that have taken place since that first number was issued ; but none was more striking than the modest little card, "M. J. Butler, Provincial Land Surveyor, Mill Point, Ontario."

The proprietor, as he told his readers in his first number, aimed at securing 1500 subscribers. Just how or where he intended to get them he did not say. The villagers and the people in the immediate neighborhood gave him all the patronage he could reasonably expect, but it fell far short of the number he set out to get. He, upon his part, did the best he could and furnished a gossipy little sheet, which for the first few months was

eagerly sought after by a certain class, who delighted to see their names in print. The novelty soon wore off, the editor's supply of jokes and local hits became exhausted, and the Echo, before it had passed its first half year, had become what most village papers are, a cheap patented outside lined with local advertisements and inferior summaries of the week's news as gathered from the daily press. It managed to survive for three years when the editor-proprietor concluded that the people of Tamworth and vicinity were not sufficiently appreciative of his talents to justify him in striving longer to maintain a newspaper in their midst. He, however, departed with a smile after publishing as his final effort a neat little valedictory addressed to his patrons.

THE NAPANEE STAR

During the federal election campaign of 1896 Mr. Uriah Wilson was the straight Conservative candidate for Lennox. The Liberals were none too sanguine about carrying the riding with a straight party man and thought to better their chances by joining forces with the Patrons of Industry, a farmers' organization, which was acquiring some influence throughout the country. Accordingly a Patron-Liberal candidate was agreed upon in the person of Mr. Edmund Switzer, an old time Ernesttown Liberal, but a prominent member of the Patrons. The Beaver supported Mr. Wilson and the Express championed the cause of Mr. Switzer. There were a number of Patrons not entirely satisfied with the choice of Mr. Switzer, owing to his former Liberal attachments, and there were a number of Liberals equally dissatisfied because he was a Patron. These murmurings of dissatisfaction were interpreted by some as indicating a general desire throughout the riding for a real independent candidate. Doubtless many an elector in his quiet moments was sick and tired of politics, but as a rule they speedily recovered as polling day drew near. Mr. Charles Stevens, of Napanee, who had just completed two terms as Mayor, heard the murmurings, and aspiring to higher honors, offered himself as an independent candidate. He had no local organ to lay his views before the electors, and without such help his cause was hopeless. Never did a newspaper come into being so quickly. Presses, type and other equipment were rushed to Napanee, a real live editor secured and early one morning, almost before any one realized that a new weekly was even contemplated, thousands of copies of The Napanee Star and Lennox and Addington Independent were distributed in every home in the riding. The first few issues

were devoted almost exclusively to election matters. The entry of a third candidate in the field improved Mr. Wilson's chances, and he was elected by an increased majority.

Mr. Stevens lost the election but he still had The Star. It had announced in its "Salutory" that it had come to stay, and stay it did and proved to be a newsy, spicey little paper. It was quite fearless in its comments and criticisms upon local events and public questions and set a good example for the two other papers of the town. Its example has not, however, had a very lasting effect upon them. Our editors are altogether too considerate for the feelings of their patrons. Some people may take offence if uncomplimentary comments upon their conduct appear in the newspapers. But the men who really count are not so thin-skinned as they may appear. There should be no room in any paper for petty personalities or social scandals; but any man or woman, who comes before the public in any capacity, has no ground for complaint if the press comments upon his or her stand upon matters of public interest. This was the policy adopted in the sanctum of The Star and it worked out successfully and was appreciated by its readers.

It was no easy task to compete with the other two papers with their long established lists of subscribers. Outside of Napanee few people in the county subscribe for two local papers, and to gain admission in the home for The Star meant crowding out one of the other papers, which was perhaps looked upon as an old friend. To many readers the political complexion of his newspaper means a good deal, and there are precious few really independent electors in Lennox and Addington. Many think they are, but when the testing time comes they are generally found lined up in the old party ranks. The Star continued to be a really independent paper and for four years endeavored to win over the people of the county to its way of thinking, but met with very little success. They preferred to remain Grits and Tories as their fathers had been before them. It finally gave up the task, and its proprietor thereafter devoted his entire energies to his other business enterprises.

THE NAPANEE EXPRESS
AND
THE NAPANEE BEAVER

The Napanee Express and The Napanee Beaver are the two remaining papers to be touched upon in order to bring our record up to date. As both are still published in Napanee, we need give them but a passing notice. If the readers of fifty years ago were to return to-day and peruse the local press, the first comments they would make would be in respect to the entire absence of anything approaching the scraps of their boyhood days, when the rival sheets never lost an opportunity of exposing each other's weak points.

The Express is the senior of the two by nine years. It had its origin as most newspapers do as a political organ to advocate the candidacy of the Hon. Richard Cartwright in the general election of 1863. The first proprietor and editor was Mr. T. S. Carman, who published it under the name of the Weekly Express. For about ten years he continued to fight the battles of the Reform party, and then sold out to Mr. T. W. Casey, who changed the name to the Napanee Express. It passed through several hands, barely escaping at times those of the sheriff, until it reached the present proprietor.

The files have not been preserved, and we have no means of forming an opinion of its merits in its early days except what can be gathered from an odd copy here and there. Mr. Carman could write a good editorial, but appears to have devoted most of his time in canvassing for advertisements, in which branch of the business he must have been eminently successful. In the issue of October 16th, 1868, now before the writer, there are no less than twenty-three columns of advertisements and practically all of them were local. Everyone in business of any kind seemed anxious to reach the public through the columns of the newspapers. There were in all 135 advertisements, and of all that number there was only one name that will be found in the business directory of Napanee to-day, and that was the legal card of D. H. Preston, LL.B. Such a complete change have all the businesses in Napanee undergone during the past fifty years that the only family names preserved in the firms of to-day are found in the advertisements of Boyle & Wright, Gibbard & Son, and D. J. Hogan. The paper underwent a radical change when it passed into the hands of Mr. Casey. It then was teeming with temperance propoganda. In the issue of February 24th, 1876, is a report

of a series of addresses given by the famous lecturer, Mrs. Youmans. The C. M. Church at Odessa is said to have greeted her with an audience of 600. Anyone familiar with the dimensions of the edifice would naturally enquire where they stowed them away. As the correspondent subscribed himself "A worker in the cause", we could hardly expect him to see double ; yet we have a suspicion that he did.

We gather from the few copies we have been able to examine that the Express would compare favorably with the ordinary small town newspaper. The local reporter was a busy man and gathered in many items of news and the editorials though not numerous were well written and to the point.

The Beaver was first published in Newburgh in 1870 by Cephas I. Beeman, under the title of The Addington Beaver. It was well received and had just begun to take its place among the permanent institutions of the county when two Napanee journeymen, Mr. Wm. Templeton and Mr. Geo. M. Beeman, who had served their time in the office of the Standard, thought they saw an opening for a third newspaper in Napanee. Undeterred by the misfortunes of so many of their predecessors in Newburgh and Napanee, they purchased the plant, moved it to Napanee, and continued the publication, but changed the name to the Ontario Beaver. A few years later it came out in a new dress, was enlarged to eight pages, and was thereafter known as the Napanee Beaver. While the Standard continued to be a popular family paper and leaned towards the Conservative party, yet it was not an out and out party organ and prided itself upon its independence. The Express left no doubt where it stood upon matters political. It could always be relied upon to support the Reform party. Here was an opportunity for the Beaver, and it was not slow in taking advantage of it. The time had arrived in the realm of politics when each party felt that a local party organ was an indispensible part of the election machinery and the Conservatives accordingly welcomed the Beaver as their champion. While as a rule, it has been comparatively mild in its handling of political matters, yet there has never been any room for doubt as to which party it supported. Nearly half a century ago the Beaver and Express stood respectively for Conservative and Reform, Tory and Grit, and from that day to this they have marched side by side, carrying their party banners, proclaiming the virtues of their respective leaders and deploring the frailties of their opponents.

For many years Mr. T. W. Casey, who, in turn, had written much for the Standard, had edited the Casket, and

owned and published the Express, contributed liberally to the columns of the Beaver. His "Old Time Records", dealing with the early history of this district, were eagerly sought after by everyone taking an interest in such matters. He took great pains in tracing the history of many of the first settlers, and there are scores of families in the county to-day whose knowledge of their ancestors is limited to the information they gathered from the "Old Time Records" published in the Beaver.

All this had a tendency to improve the tone of the paper and the old families, whose genealogy had been traced through the energy of a member of its staff and published in its columns, felt grateful for the attention shown them. The result has been more far-reaching than was ever anticipated by the editor, and we venture to assert that the subscription list to-day contains hundreds of names of people who have moved away, but still keep up their connection with the county through the weekly visits of the Beaver. It had penetrated the family circle through its "Old Time Records" and the attachment thus created is not to be lightly broken off.

Only once in its long and respectable career has the Beaver departed from the course mapped out for it by its founder. In 1890 it ventured forth in a new dress as a tri-weekly ; but the experiment was not a success, and after a few months it reverted to the weekly issue, and resumed its old dress.

There was a time in the history of both the Express and the Beaver when they were conducted upon lines calculated to serve the interests of the public better than the policy adopted by both papers to-day. In their early days the editorial column was an important feature in both papers. All local matters of interest to the public were freely discussed. To-day the local press rarely comments editorially upon events and conditions that ought to be brought to the attention of their readers. It is a notarious fact that there is no means of correcting an evil, quite so potent as the press. Most people will endure a certain amount of criticism in private or even from the public platform, but few need to be reminded of their errors a second time through the local newspaper. A case in point will illustrate the force of my argument. For years the streets of Napanee have been overgrown with weeds and presented a very untidy appearance. Everyone knew it, many were the complaints, but no effort was made to remedy the evil. During the past season the same conditions existed. An enterprising "Critic" took up the question through the Beaver, and by good natured banter "jollied" the Town Council into getting out a gang of

workmen to remove the weeds. In like manner many private citizens were induced to tidy up their premises.

Our Town Council and School Board are frequently criticized in private for something done by them or left undone, when, if matters had been fully understood, they would have been praised instead. A few timely remarks from the editors would have cleared matters up ; but the remarks as a rule are not forthcoming.

Many important measures have come before our County Council and the councils of the local municipalities throughout the county and their decisions have not always been for the best interests of their constituents ; not because the representatives did not want to do what was right, but because the public was not educated up to the modern point of view. Here, too, the local press fails to take advantage of its opportunities for doing good. If the press of Napanee had energetically taken up the good roads question and kept at it, our public highways to-day would not be in such a disgraceful condition. There are many fields in which the "Critic" could do useful work and it is to be hoped that the Beaver will maintain that department. It is precisely what has been sorely needed for years.

Each local paper has a score or more of news gatherers throughout the county who send in their weekly budgets. It is quite apparent that these amateur correspondents have never attended a School of Journalism, and the prominence given to certain individuals in the petty personals simplifies the task of guessing the source of the items. These contributions to the papers do little, if any, harm, and if the personals tickle the fancy of those who look with favor upon such references to themselves the subscribers who do not enjoy that sort of reading have no serious grounds for complaint.

The absence of criticism in the Napanee papers leaves them free from the charge of circulating scandals of any kind, and to their credit it may be said that neither one has, so far as the memory of the writer extends, ever been called upon to answer the charge of libel.

It is not necessary for newspapers to indulge in criticism in order to receive their due share of it ; for there is no one engaged in a business catering for public support who is so freely and generally criticized as the man who publishes a newspaper, and if he is a keen critic himself he must be prepared for all sorts of criticism in return. The very nature of his calling invites it, and he is not very often neglected in this respect. He is just as likely to get into difficulty when he is trying his very best to be agreeable ; for when paying compliments some one is sure to be overlooked. He has a very extensive and varied list of

customers, and to please them all is out of the question. There are innumerable religious, literary, patriotic and social organizations, each one of which claims special consideration from the publisher and insists upon presenting advertisements disguised as items of news. To publish them means the loss of so much time and space, to refuse to do so brings down upon his head the anathemas of the unreasoning members of the society.

The Napanee papers have at all times been extremely generous in this respect, and particularly so since the outbreak of war. Hundreds of columns of notices and advertisements, although not classed by the writers as such, have been published free, at a time when most papers could ill afford to do it. This commendable generosity will cover a multitude of shortcomings and dispose the writer to wish them both God Speed in their sometimes unenviable vocations.

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LENNOX AND ADDINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PAPERS AND RECORDS

VOL. XI

THE NORTH AMERICAN

NAPANEE, ONTARIO
PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY
1924

RICHARD J. CARTWRIGHT

AUGUSTUS HOOPER

SIDNEY WARNER

JOHN STEVENSON

LENNOX AND ADDINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PAPERS AND RECORDS

VOL. XI

THE NORTH AMERICAN

BEING A SELECTION OF EDITORIALS FROM THE NORTH AMERICAN, AN OLD NEWSPAPER, AT ONE TIME PUBLISHED IN LENNOX AND ADDINGTON, THE FILES OF WHICH WERE PRESENTED TO THE SOCIETY BY HARVARD McMULLEN, BROTHER OF THE PUBLISHERS.

COMPILED AND EDITED

By WALTER S. HERRINGTON, K.C., F.R.S.C.

NAPANEE, ONTARIO
PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY
1924

PRINTED AT THE BEAVER OFFICE

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Vol. V. The Bell and Laing Papers.....March 14, 1914

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"War Work of Lennox and Addington".....April 1, 1922

INTRODUCTION

Over a year ago Mr. Harvard McMullen presented to the Society a file of The North American, a weekly newspaper published by his brothers, G. W. and I. B. McMullen, sixty years ago. The first issue appeared on the 24th of June, 1862, and was printed in Napanee in the building opposite the Campbell House, on the south side of Dundas street. In the issue of July 29th, the publishers announced their intention of moving their plant to Newburgh, and frankly gave as their reason for so doing that they expected to secure more patronage by way of advertising and subscriptions than was likely to come their way if they remained in Napanee, where the Standard was already established and was considered one of the best edited papers in Eastern Ontario. They continued the publication in Newburgh until May 12th, 1864, when they shifted their plant to Picton. We have gone carefully through all the issues covering a period of two years, and without any attempt at classification, have selected and now present in chronological order such items as we believe will prove instructive and entertaining to the readers of to-day. At least two generations have come upon the scene since these articles were penned. A perusal of the following pages will revive many memories in the advanced readers, and will give the younger ones a fair insight into the events of the days of their grandparents.

W. S. HERRINGTON.

GLEANINGS FROM

The North American

PUBLISHED IN NEWBURGH IN 1862-3-4

Market Quotations

For purposes of comparison with present day prices we select from the first issue the following quotations from the Napanee market :

	$ c.		$ c.
Wheat, per bus	80	to	90
Barley, per bus	50	to	55
Butter, per lb	10	to	12
Cheese, per lb	7	to	10
Lard, per lb	8	to	10
Eggs, per doz	7	to	8
Fowls, per pair	25	to	30
Beef, per lb	6	to	8
Ham, per lb	7	to	8
Hay, per ton	8 00	to	10 00

Federal Union

The following selections from the first editorial reflect credit upon the writer, when we bear in mind that Federation was still several years distant.

"We have always considered favorably, as a remedy for existing or prospective difficulties, a change in our North American relations,—which has been but partially brought before the Canadian people, but into which we believe it is the duty of every patriotic man to examine, and an adoption of which, as far as possible, would, in our opinion, prove vastly beneficial to us,—we mean a Federal Union, upon a just basis, of all the British North American Provinces. This course, while it would allow each Colony

untrammelled liberty in the management of its own local affairs, would give us, as a whole, a reputation and national character, of which our union with Lower Canada has furnished a mere type. It could not be injurious to Upper Canada since it is the largest of all the sections embraced and consequently would have a full and fair share in the general legislation. We believe it would also do away with the unhappy rivalry which the near balance of religious denominations in the two provinces occasions, and would give an opportunity to the different sects to adopt a liberal course towards others, without fear of permanent injury."

* * * * * *

"It is to be regretted that no action has been taken by the Canadian authorities in reference to developing the resources of the Northwest Territory, and extending the limits of Canada in that direction. We believe this must be done, sooner or later, or the enterprising inhabitants of the neighbouring Union will avail themselves of the discontent already existing in that part of America, to enlarge the boundaries of the great republic."

Defeat of the French in Mexico

It will be remembered that at this time the United States was in the throes of a civil war, with no time nor means to pay any attention to external affairs. Mexico, after countless revolutions, found its treasury empty, and Louis Napoleon, regardless of the Monroe doctrine, had invaded the country ostensibly with the view of collecting the debts owing to the French, but his real object appeared to be the gaining of a foothold on the Western Continent. The following editorial of July 1st foreshadowed what Napoleon subsequently accomplished, the subjugation of the country and the establishment of an Empire, with his tool, Maximillian, brother of Frances Joseph, of Austria, on the throne :

"From accounts received some weeks since, it appears that the French army in Mexico suffered a severe defeat from the native Mexican forces. A later report says that they have capitulated ; this lacks confirmation. What effect this defeat will have on the Emperor and his subjects

it is impossible to tell, although reports show a tendency to continue the war. Whether they will endeavour to 'retrieve the honor of France', or consent to withdraw an army already reduced by sickness, and probably disconcerted by defeat, and, moreover, engaged in a wicked and useless attempt to subjugate, or, as the French Emperor would have it, occupy Mexico, is not certain. The latter is certainly the course which should be pursued, since the object of sending troops to Mexico was merely to enforce the payment of debts, which the Mexicans threatened to repudiate. Almost immediately upon the landing of the allied forces at Vera Cruz, the Mexicans complied with the demands, and England withdrew her forces ; not so France, who appeared to wish some pretext for maintaining her ground in this weak and unhappy country,—so long distracted by internal strife.

"Since the reputation of Mexican soldiers was at so low an ebb, no one for a moment supposed that they would be at all able to resist successfully, the disciplined French veterans. The result has, however, dispelled any such illusions, for the Mexicans have met them in the open field and defeated them. We, of course, would not for a moment suppose that Mexican soldiers are at all equal to French, under the same circumstances ; but when a man feels that he is fighting unmerited oppression, it has a wondrous effect upon him. Some men, indeed, who are the veriest cowards in other positions, will resist with unflinching tenacity any innovation on their freedom.

"There can be no mistaking Louis Napoleon's great desire for conquest, but nevertheless we cannot see the propriety of a needless waste of life and money in the conquest of Mexico."

John A. Joins the Sons of Temperance

The press had already begun to keep in close touch with all the movements of John A. Macdonald as is apparent from the following personal reference in the issue of July 22nd :

"We never felt more pleasure than we do in announcing that the Hon. John A. Macdonald was initiated as a Son of

Temperance, on Friday evening last, in the Mechanic's Division, Kingston. This course, on the part of the ex-Attorney General, cannot fail to be beneficial to himself and to the many who almost slavishly follow his example."

By August 12th, The North American was comfortably housed in its new quarters on the corner of Main and Concession streets, in the Village of Newburgh, and in the number published upon that date the editor again returns to his favorite theme.

To Our Patrons

"The North American in changing locations, changes nothing else, it will still maintain the liberal principles it has previously enunciated, since its object is to raise Canada and every part of it to its proper sphere. Whoever may oppose, Canada will yet arrive at what she is now so rapidly approaching, a first class position among earth's powers. This consummation can be seriously delayed by internal rivalry or strife. The end is certain, but each one should endeavour, as it were, to help fate and share in common with patriotic fellow-countrymen the honor of achieving so great an end.

"Some people, in following the dictates of a contracted self-interest, often delay great national moves. We trust that neither the people of this country nor any part of Canada, will oppose aught that makes for the general interests of the community. In speaking of Canada, we do not mean merely the strip, as actually surveyed, but the vast territory stretching from Atlantic to Pacific, known as British North America."

American Troubles

Across the border the North was endeavoring to augment its army in the field by drafting into the service an additional 600,000 men. The slackers were fleeing into Canada to escape conscription, and while they were unwelcome guests, yet their tales of blood-shed and suffering, bad enough at its best, but no doubt grossly exaggerated, exercised no small influence in moulding public opinion upon this side of the line. The view thus held by Canadians is reflected in the following editorial of August 19th :

"Mr. Lincoln no doubt has endeavoured to take a very careful and safe course in the administration of his affairs, but in doing so, he has regularly avoided striking at the very foundation (slavery) and acknowledged cause of the present contest; which has prolonged the war to the present fearful crisis, when the result appears to be pending as in a balance, so uncertain is it which party will prove themselves victorious.

"It has been our desire to see the North gain their point, if they were likely to act as we supposed they would, viz., do away with the curse of their nation. We did not wish to have them declare, at once, that all slaves were free, but to give the world to understand that they would do away with the system as soon as possible and practicable, and in a fair and equitable manner. This, it has been thought by people well able to judge, was not impossible since they could have remunerated all loyal persons for their slave property at an expense far less than the cost is likely to be of raising and maintaining even 300,000 men for one year. This indefinite kind of position taken by the president and his Government has undoubtedly been the means of making many friends for the South in Canada, and also of weakening the sympathies of many, who heretofore expressed themselves as friends of the Union. We know several journals that have always been warm friends of the Federals that are lately moderating very much in their tone; and are apparently dissatisfied with the course of the Government. This betokens a change."

American Visitors

This forcibly reminds us of the fact that this fratricidal struggle had been under way a long time before the slaves were actually emancipated. Is it possible that it might have been avoided if the plan of compensation suggested by the editor had been adopted? In the next issue, under the above heading, he returns to the subject, and in language with no uncertain sound, roundly scores those undesirable guests.

"We are just now well favored with a large access to our population in the persons of Americans, who have

"skedaddled" to avoid the draft. As a general rule we are among the first to welcome parties from the other side of the line. They are usually among the first benefactors of Canada, since their energetic business habits have a favorable effect upon our population, and they are usually the first to conduct or encourage any branch of trade or industry. With the present party, however, we can show no friendship, they have deserted their country in her hour of greatest trial, when the tendons of her vast frame are stretched to the utmost, and every moment threatens a final overthrow. They have basely withdrawn from their native home rather than obey the call to duty, and should success attend her efforts, perhaps none would shout more lustily, or more highly laud, the bravery of 'our' heroes than these patriotic citizens. We believe that with the Botany Bay convict they might say,—

'True patriots, we, for be it understood,
We leave our country for our country's good.'

"In whatever direction the sympathies of Canadians may lie, we believe they should spurn any approaches on the part of those who are willing while everything prospers, to profit out of their country, and upon the first approach of danger, disgracefully turn their backs with apparently no more feeling than they would go through an ordinary every-day transaction."

Church Dedication

The members of Trinity Church, Napanee, will be especially interested in the report of the dedication of the old stone church, which was torn down in 1906 to make room for the present handsome structure erected upon its site. This report appeared in the issue of September 10th, 1862.

"The dedicatory services connected with the opening of the new W. M. church in the Village of Napanee, took place on Sunday last, as announced by handbills and otherwise. This church, which has just been completed, is a credit to the society and the place. It has been built at an expense, we understand, of $8,000.00, and it can be denominated a cheap building. The sermons were preached

by the Rev. Dr. Wood, President of the Conference, at 10.30 a.m.; Rev. John Black, at 3 p.m., and the Rev. Dr. Nelles, Principal of Victoria College, at 7 p.m. The Reverend gentlemen fully sustained their former reputation, and everything passed off creditably. The success of the choir especially elicited approbation, and Dr. West, at the close, took occasion, in a very neat manner, to bestow a handsome and we believe, a well deserved compliment on the singers. We understand that the large attendance produced, as it should, a large collection, which as is generally the case, was a relief to the steward. There was a bazaar Monday and Tuesday, and also a teameeting on Tuesday evening, of the result we have not heard.

"There will be preaching at the same hours next Sabbath by the following ministers : Rev. George Young, morning and evening, and the Rev. W. H. Poole, of this place, in the afternoon. If the services are as interesting as on last Sabbath, we can only recommend our friends to go, and if they go we would remind them that churches cost money."

Emancipation

That the war to the South was getting upon the nerves of Canadians is evident from the fact that the news columns were filled with items from the different fronts, and the editor frequently summed up the situation as in the following editorial of September 10th :

"The long wished and prayed for proclamation by President Lincoln seems likely to be not much longer delayed. The whole pressure of the Republican journals and the chief mouth-pieces of the party, are being brought to bear to accomplish this end, as a final means of saving the great, but tottering, Union. No person doubts that such a proclamation will be issued, and it is now generally thought that the sooner it appears the better. Being steady, and we believe consistent, opponents of slavery, we have looked forward to some crisis in this war when it would become a military necessity to free the slaves and thus speedily erase that foul blot from the national American character. We have steadily, since the war began,

wished for success for the Federal party. We did this, not out of admiration for the principal parties, who are considered exponents of Northern views for to a majority of them, we are happy to take exception, nor are we actuated by any enthusiastic admiration of the manner in which matters have been conducted since the war began; but we believe that in the great mass of the community at the North there exists a sincere desire to free their land from the great evil that has from its very origin, cursed it. How different with the South, whose professed desire is to perpetuate this very system. They who have always ruled the national councils, as soon as they perceived that the intelligence of the North was awaking to the infamy of the system, at once to perpetuate their horrible dealings in flesh and blood, resolved to cap the climax by destroying the very nation that had fostered and fed them.

"In thus declaiming against the South, we would not be understood to acquit the North as guiltless; many parties in that section have long, either openly or in an indirect manner, encouraged the system of human bondage, while a large class have so totally forgotten everything like a moral responsibility, that they have achieved for their country, we cannot but think with partial justice, the appellation of a 'Nation without God'."

Resuming the subject in his issue of October 1st, the Editor continues his comments :

"It is a mighty step in the right direction and should enlist the sympathy of the entire civilized world. After being trodden under an iron-heeled despotism for two hundred years, the wronged African is to have his rights; he is henceforth to be numbered among men instead of brutes, for the history of slavery would seem to assign to him a position among the irrational and irresponsible portion of creation. The civilized portion of the community cannot but applaud this bold humane view of the President, and it will awaken a sympathetic chord in their nature, for that portion of the nation loyal to the old constitution. What will become of the slaves is asked on one hand. Were it in our province to answer, we would say at once, that at present many are needed for the war, and when that is

over, all, and more than all, are required to raise 'King Cotton' on the Southern plantations. As free men, their labor will be to more purpose than when their lives were devoid of aim, and we indulge the hope, that as free men, they will restore the soil, which as slaves, their labor tended to degenerate."

Yates' Hotel

Abel Yates, well known to all of the old residents of Napanee, sought the patronage by the following advertisement :

"Yates' Hotel

"Corner of Dundas and East Streets, Napanee, C.W.

Ministers of all denominations half fare.

Abel Yates,

Late of The Campbell House, Proprietor."

Separation of Lennox and Addington from Frontenac

In the issue of February 4th, 1863, we see the spark that set fire to the ambitious desire of Lennox and Addington to sever connection with Frontenac and become a separate county. Sidney Warner, Reeve of Ernesttown, was a candidate for the Wardenship of the then United Counties of Frontenac, Lennox and Addington, but was defeated by a man of inferior ability from Frontenac. The North American denounced in good round terms the selfishness of the representatives from Frontenac. We are not at all surprised therefore to find the following in the next issue :

"At a meeting held yesterday afternoon, at the Town Hall, Napanee, of the Reeves of Lennox and Addington, it was carried that they petition the Governor-in-Council for a separation of these United Counties. The vote was unanimous. Fuller particulars next week."

Poland

The editor by no means limited his editorial observations to purely local affairs. He views with equanimity the threatening war clouds in Europe and enlightens his readers by a well written article on March 18th, 1863 :

"It is very gratifying to hear, every moment of our lives some new effort for human liberty, and while our hearts bleed at the inevitable destruction of life, we nevertheless, realize that such things must be, and if freedom cannot be achieved in any way but by war, then war must come. Poland has earned a classic name in our ears by the noble stand taken in defense of liberty under patriotic leaders against the united power of Russia, Prussia and Austria.

"She has been for years ground under the iron heel of Russia, and we mistake the liberal aspirations of our age if she is longer crushed to the earth. The tone of English statesmen is adverse to any interference, unless on behalf of the Poles, and France occupies the same position. We only find the would-be autocrat of Prussia in opposition to an immense majority of the Popular Representatives, openly intriguing on behalf of his historical Russia.

"We have always admired the course of the present Emperor of Russia in pushing to a successful end his vast schemes for liberation and we looked for the display of generous self-denial on his part in allowing the Poles, whose very nature and temperament are so Anti-Russian, to exercise the right of self-government. It may be that he will yet see his error in thus contending against the prevailing notions of the day and the undoubtedly ascendant popular sympathy.

"It must be remembered that Poland at one time was not the oppressed nationality she now is, at one time Poland was the foremost defender of Christianity in Eastern Europe against the inroads of the Turkish and Tartar Barbarians and a feeling of ordinary humanity should prompt us to wish them restored to the position they once held. We do not believe in encouraging acts of hostility against existing rules for trivial reasons ; but we look upon this outbreak in Poland as a spontaneous and universal uprising of an oppressed people against laws adverse to their nature and against the rule of a people whose sympathies, desires, education, and tendencies are almost the antipodes of their own. Their request was reasonable. It was not granted, and they have availed themselves of

arms to sanction their claim; so far they maintain the ascendant. May they succeed."

The Examination at the Academy.

In the issue of April 8th is an extended report of the examination at the Newburgh Academy, conducted orally in the old fashioned style. The examination extended over three days, and instead of being in private as at present, all the ratepayers were invited to come and witness the proceedings.

"The system pursued at the examination was to bring the scholars of all the rooms into one room and thereby allow the spectators to hear the recitations of every class; this plan entails considerable delay, and we can scarcely believe that the advantage it gives visitors counteracts the long time it takes.

"The classes in Geometry, Trigonometry, French and Algebra acquitted themselves very creditably in their respective branches. The scholars of the common school department, also, by their examinations, paid a high compliment to their teachers. There is one fault, however, which it is impossible to remedy when dealing with a number of small children, that is the confusion attendant on the presence, in one room, of 200 or 300 people, which, added to the low tone of small scholars, makes the otherwise interesting examinations exceedingly unsatisfactory."

The late John D. Ham was chairman of the School Board, and among the prize winners we note the following : 1st in Latin, James H. Madden, now Judge of the County Court; 1st in Arithmetic, Matthew Ryan, now deceased, late Warden of the County, and 2nd in Reading, W. P. Deroche, Local Registrar of the Supreme Court.

Separation of the Counties

The meeting of the Reeves held in Napanee on February 10th, had already borne fruit. All the preliminaries to the introduction of a bill providing for the separation of the counties had been completed. The arguments in favor of separation were very neatly summed up in a leading article of April 15th, from which we quote a part only :

"The population of the three counties and the city was, according to the last census, 66,092, and is probably now not less than 75,000, of which about 30,000 are in Lennox and Addington, a fully sufficient number for independent municipal support. We can easily understand the opposition which is given to the separation project by the members of the County Council from Frontenac, who derive so much benefit from their connection in a monetary line with our county. While there is ample population to justify separation, there are also many other reasons which should impel us to take the step. When the population was thin, and the people poor, there was less necessity for them to leave their homes often for the county capital and consequently less inconvenience experienced by it being at a distance; but now, with new townships constantly opening in the rear and increasing demand for some centre or mart in our immediate vicinity, where the ordinary business of the county can be transacted without the disagreeable necessity of a tedious jaunt to Kingston, we should not be longer deprived of our rights. It has long been an established rule that the senior county allows without protest, the division when the wishes of the junior are known to be inclined in that direction, and after the decisive vote at Napanee last February, we can interpret the course pursued at Kingston by Mr. Flanigan and others, as nothing but a selfish clinging to the old regime against all considerations of general interest.

"In the discussions which will take place upon the County Town, the question will be placed fairly upon its merits and that the people of the different townships will weigh well the consequences of their vote, they should consult their own and the general convenience in the dispatch of the County business, and we believe that the inconvenience they have suffered heretofore will teach them a lesson in bringing it as near their homes as they can. Newburgh will raise no false issues, all they want is a fair and just expression of public opinion on this point and they consider their cause safe. We do not blame parties in Napanee working all they can for their village, as we assuredly shall for ours, but if the people of the larger

County, Addington, remain but true to their interests, we have no fear of the result. When the Bill appears we will keep our readers posted on this important subject.

"We hope that the general feeling in favor of a popular vote will prevent the Reeves, at their meeting on Saturday next, from taking the settlement of this matter, which they have no right to do, out of the hands of its rightful arbiters, the people."

A new question, however, had arisen—that of the County Town, and The North American left no doubt where it stood upon that question. There were four claimants in the field, Napanee, Newburgh, Bath and Tamworth. It was a foregone conclusion that neither Bath nor Tamworth could secure the prize, but both remained in the field until a vote was taken at a meeting of the Reeves in Napanee on April 11th, when Napanee secured a majority of the votes. Newburgh was not satisfied with this verdict and contended that so important a question as the selection of a County Town should be determined by a vote of the ratepayers. Douglas Hooper was the representative of the County in the Legislative Assembly, and being a Camden man he naturally favored Newburgh's claims. Richard Cartwright, afterwards Sir Richard, was the largest property owner in Napanee, and he used all of his influence for Napanee. As he was a prospective candidate at the next election, it will be readily seen that the County Town problem was likely to make itself felt at that election. Canada then embraced only two provinces, Upper and Lower Canada, and the Legislative Assembly met at Quebec. A Coalition Government had been having a hard time of it and went down under a vote of want of confidence moved by John A. Macdonald, the member for Kingston, afterwards Sir John. The editor of The North American leaves no doubt as to his political leanings in the following editorial :

The Want of Confidence Vote

"The truce given by the opposition is over, and war is really in vogue in the Legislature. On Friday last the Hon. John A. Macdonald moved a direct vote of want of

confidence in the administration, which of course brings matters to a direct issue. We have not learned the fate of the measure, but soon will, the probabilities are that it will be lost by a narrow majority, but on the other hand it may possibly carry.

"In making his speech, the member for Kingston indulged in the usual amount of bombast and humbug, which characterizes his efforts. He lost sight of his own chequered political life, his own directly opposite votes on the Representation Question, his change of opinion on the Clergy Reserve Secularization and accused the present holders of the Treasury benches with inconsistency. Such a charge coming from such a source, must be considered, by all impartial hearers as a mere claptrap cry, only made for the sake of regaining the coveted places on the other side of the House."

The County Town Again

Mr. Douglas Hooper, the member for Lennox and Addington, was a Conservative. The Editor of The North American was a Reformer, but as Mr. Cartwright was at that time a Conservative also, there was no course open to the Reform editor but to support the man in favor of Newburgh as the County Town, and this he proceeds to do as appears from the following editorial :

"We have much pleasure in notifying our readers that Mr. Hooper, last week, gave notice of a Bill to allow the ratepayers of Lennox and Addington to choose their own County Town. This course, on the part of the County member, is highly commendable as it refers the whole matter to the rightful arbiters, the people; although it may suit our friends in Napanee, who fondly but illusively, imagined the whole matter settled by the Reeves.

"However much local feeling may be brought to bear against Mr. Hooper in the course he has taken, we firmly believe that he will be sustained by the general good sense of the County, and that, on the whole he will gain in popular estimation by so just a course.

"We have to praise the well-timed remarks of our contemporary, The Standard, last week in reference to the

claims of Napanee. No one pretends that Napanee has not an advantage over us in being possessed of water and railway communications, but that does not argue that the people of the County will be convenienced more by going to Napanee than Newburgh to do County business, and it will be well for our people to understand the wire pulling that will be resorted to by less conscientious advocates of Napanee than our friends of The Standard."

The American War

The election of 1863 was one of the most bitter in the history of our country, yet the American war was the all-absorbing topic of conversation and in the minds of some had a direct bearing upon the campaign. There were grave fears that England might be involved. The press of all shades of politics published columns of news and followed the movements of the opposing forces with harrowing tales of slaughter and suffering. Time and again the editor expresses his abhorrence of the terrible conflicts. The following is from the issue of May 6th :

"This desolating war still continues with as little prospect as ever of termination. Its effect on the trade of the whole world is now keenly felt and so clamorous is public opinion against its continuance that a move of some kind towards a finality will have to be taken by one or another of the contending parties, or by some foreign power. Gen. Hooker has commenced an 'On to Richmond' march, with what success remains to be seen. It may be that the acknowledged exhaustion of the South will enable him to make an easy capture of that now famous city and it is also possible that he will meet the disastrous fate of McDowell, McClellan and Burnside.

"We can never have any sympathy with the Confederate States in the move they have made. They have defended themselves gallantly, it is true, but the rotten principle of slavery, upon which their Government is founded, is a bar no true British subject can cross. We heartily wish their defeat, but if that is not soon accomplished, no considerations should further prolong the war. It has caused an amount of suffering scarcely ever before

equalled, it has deranged the commerce, not only of our own land, but of the entire civilized world, and in the name of humanity should soon be ended."

The Election

The candidates were soon in the field for the election and ranged themselves under three banners : The Reformers, The Liberal Conservatives, and the old die-hard Conservatives under the leadership of Galt, Cartier and John A. Macdonald. The latter party was given the rather unsavory title of The Corruptionists. Cartwright and Hooper, the candidates for Lennox and Addington, both claimed to be Liberal Conservatives. This was Mr. Cartwright's first entry into political life and his youth and inexperience were urged as reasons for not supporting his candidature. In reading their respective addresses to the electors there appears to be little to choose between them. Both were for retrenchment and economy, as indeed all candidates profess to be and in all probability will so continue to the end of time, or so long as legislators are elected by popular vote. Both candidates were for Representation by Population and claimed that Upper Canada did not have its fair proportion of members in the Legislature. No candidate in Upper Canada could hope to be elected without this plank in his platform. Both were for placing the militia on a sounder footing, and Mr. Cartwright went so far as to say "causes over which we can exercise no control may at any instant involve us in a war of the most desperate character."

That he was shaping his canvass so that he might consistently follow either of the old time parties in the house might reasonably be inferred from the following extract from his address :

"I believe the country to be in such peril that it becomes all good citizens, Conservative or Reformer, to lay aside party disputes and stand together firmly, at least till this danger be overpast. And I may urge this the more reasonably because I believe I am justified in saying that almost all the great questions which formerly divided those parties have been peacably adjusted and, that if at this juncture

any important differences can be said to exist between them, it lies chiefly in this,—that the Reform party perceive perhaps the most clearly, the vital importance of retrenching and adjusting our finances, while the Conservatives, on the other hand, are most alive to the quite as urgent necessity of preparing for the war storm, which any hour may discharge itself on our head."

The Election Candidates

The views of the respective candidates were well known upon the question of the County Town, but both took good care not to make any reference to it in their addresses to the electors. The personal merits, however, were not overlooked. Mr. Cartwright represented himself as a very large property owner with great financial interests at stake in the riding and prided himself in being born in the riding, and descended from U. E. L. parents, thinking perhaps thereby to score a slight advantage over his opponent, who was born in Scotland and came to Canada when a mere child and was brought up in Lower Canada. Mr. Hooper retorted that his property holdings were not so large as those of Mr. Cartwright, yet what he had he had earned by hard labor and that his knowledge of the wants and necessities of a farming community was better than that of the other candidate, who had never experienced the hardships necessary to obtain a livelihood by manual labor. After the campaign was well under way, the Reformers held a rather stormy meeting at Newburgh with the result that they concluded that it was too late to put a candidate in the field. This seemed quite satisfactory to The North American, whose editor would have been placed in an awkward position if his political party had seen fit to nominate a candidate. He was quite sincere in the following editorial :

"We are glad that this conclusion was arrived at, for although we would very much like to see this county represented by a good moderate Reformer, yet in the present juncture, as we stated last week, we believe it very imprudent for a third man to enter the field, for our part, being satisfied with Mr. Hooper's past course, and also that

if re-elected he will be as consistent, we shall do all we can, in a lawful manner, to ensure his election."

"The Supplementary Estimates"

The editor essayed at times to be facetious. We leave the reader to form his own opinion of his success along this line.

"By special favor we have received the following list of supplementary estimates to be proposed to the House shortly :

Salary of a compositor from the "Grumbler" office, to teach the Hon. Mr. Cameron, the new printer, his new business	$ 1000 00
Printer's devil to assist	500 00
To provide a new set of brains for Mr. Cauchon	1 00
Repairs to Mr. Ryerson's political morality	20 00
To purchase some of Mr. Dunkin's self-conceit for Mr. Dorion	10 00
For a bag to shake up J. A. Macdonald and George Brown together with a view of seeing which will be the first to emerge	50
To print 500 copies of Mr. Wright's orations for general circulation, say	2 00
To procure a foreign mission or something to get rid of Mr. Carter	50 00
For a copy of Joe Miller for Mr. Rymal	50
To purchase bacon, eggs and other palatable means of sustinence for the pupils of the U. C. College	500 00
To pay Dr. Ryerson's expenses to Nova Zembla	10 00
For a dancing master to instruct Messrs. Benjamin and Baxter, in the sailor's hornpipe	10 00
To furnish Godley, the Court Jesterfield, with a few grains of common sense	10
To furnish paper pellets for members to throw at each other when in committee of the whole	10000 00
For an interpreter to explain Isaac Buchanan's speech	1 00

For obtaining a facsimile of Isaac Buchanan's laugh to send to the next World's Fair, as one of Canada's greatest curiosities 100 00

The Election

To those of us who have had opportunities of witnessing the entire absence of even friendly relations between Sir John A. Macdonald and Sir Richard Cartwright, it is inconceivable that at one time these two men were so intimately associated in politics that the latter found it necessary to deny the charge brought against him that he was dominated by John A. It is a fact, however, that they were very intimate, both socially and politically, and on nomination day Mr. Cartwright in referring to a current report, declared that he "was not under the thumb of John A. Macdonald". The election took place on the 17th and 18th of June, and Cartwright was returned by a majority of 285. The Reformers, under the leadership of John Sandfield Macdonald in Upper Canada and A. A. Dorion in Lower Canada, carried the country by a fair majority. In Lennox the question of the County Town had a marked effect, particularly in Napanee, North Fredericksburgh, Newburgh and Camden, as will be seen from the following returns :

	Cartwright	Hooper
Napanee	202	52
North Fredericksburgh ...	190	59
Newburgh	12	131
Camden	334	560

Throughout the rest of the county the Conservatives appear to have divided their votes, while the majority of the Reformers voted for Cartwright, probably because he was a young man of means with no political sins to answer for, while Hooper had a Conservative record in the House with slim chances of ever making a Reformer out of him. The North American declared itself disappointed in the result, but upon the whole took the defeat rather gracefully and concluded its leading editorial upon the election as follows :

"We are yet to be convinced that the Reformers will not regret the vote they have this time given, and that when it is too late to remedy it; as it is, Mr. Cartwright is now member elect for this county, and as such must act as our representative. We wait the development of his course with anxiety, only hoping, but we confess against hope, that his course on all questions will be as liberal as his ardent admirers anticipate. If he gives a support to the present Government in opposition to his friend, John A., he will be a political curiosity such as is not often found in the ranks to which he belongs, more especially in the celebroted 'Liberal' city of Kingston."

The New Member

The new parliament met on August 13th, and upon the first vote it was found that the government had a majority of only eight or ten. One of the first acts of the Ministry was to pass an order-in-council constituting Napanee the County Town of the new County of Lennox and Addington, as Mr. Hooper during the last session of the previous parliament had secured the passage of a bill separating the counties, and the only necessary step remaining to enable the new county to proceed to set its house in order was the naming of the County Town. For this Mr. Cartwright got the blame and was charged with a violation of his pre-election pledge that he would not favor the naming of the County Town by the government if a majority of the rate-payers petitioned for having it determined by a popular vote. No such petition had been presented, but The North American claimed that one was being circulated to the knowledge of the member, and that his action was premature and calculated to circumvent the will of the electors. As a matter of fact a petition had been forwarded to the Government, asking for delay, and also a counter petition praying that the proclamation do issue at once putting the act of separation into force and naming the County Town, and while Mr. Cartwright had stated upon the hustings that he would not oppose having a vote taken upon the question, there is no evidence that he was responsible for the issuing of the proclamation. There is every reason to

believe that Stevenson, afterwards the Honourable John Stevenson, speaker of the first parliament of the Province of Ontario, and who was named in the proclamation as the first Warden, was the person responsible for securing the passing of the Order-in-Council that put an end to the controversy that had already lasted too long. Moreover, we have no reason to believe that Mr. Cartwright was persona grata with the government as he voted steadily against it, for which The North American called him to task.

"What say Reformers now, we wonder? Their pet candidate and liberal minded representative has scarcely come up to the political mark they set for him. Mr. Cartwright, many of them said, while the election was going on, was pledged to them even personally to give a generous support to the present government and to judge them entirely by their measures. We ourselves heard him say that he would not vote want of confidence in them at the opening of the session, but would give them a fair trial. It may be well asked how has he fulfilled those pledges? He gave his vote for Mr. Wallbridge, and since then has steadily voted against the government and on the first opportunity declaring by his vote, for his speeches say nothing, that he had no confidence in the administration."

John A. Macdonald

A week after Mr. Cartwright had been declared elected the wrath of the editor appears to have subsided so far as the local election was concerned. He was a Reformer at heart, although for local reasons he did all he could to secure the return of Mr. Hooper. The Reformers claimed seventy-three seats in the House and accorded to the opposition fifty-one, and the independents six. In his pre-election notices he had the three classes, Reformers, Corruptionists and Liberal-Conservatives, but in summing up the returns after the election, he put John A. back in the Conservative fold, and although he had backed a Conservative himself with all the force he could command, he could not resist quoting with approval the following from The Globe :

"Will Mr. John A. Macdonald please come to the rescue and tell the poor disconsolates who still cling to his coat-tails, what he will do? He has the reputation of being an eminently ingenious man, and, as one of his enthusiastic supporters once described him, he is a cat with nine lives. It is this belief which supports his admirers now amid all their afflictions; they cling to it as drowning men to straws. They believe that he has yet some dodge in reserve, some double-shuffle trick, some nicely pre-arranged distribution of the cards. In fact, not a few rather incline to think that, for some reason or other,—to a comprehension of which they do not pretend,—he likes the present look of affairs. But unless he makes haste, they will lose all confidence and pitch him overboard. We, who are perfectly impartial, can afford to wait, but they cannot. As it appears to us, for all his boasted generalship, he has brought his party to about as low an ebb as the most bungling political leader could possibly do. Mr. Cartier can yet bring up a compact phalanx. Not so large as it once was, yet one of which he may boast. However unworthy, he has at least manoeuvred so as to gain the confidence of his countrymen. John Alexander has manoeuvred and lost. His chief captains have been cut off. Sergeant John Hillyard Cameron, it is true, remains and may give some strength, but with that exception the trains are gone. No longer can he, with all his effrontery pretend that he is able to meet his Lower Canadian allies upon equal terms. We do not care to be thought curious, but we would like to know what excuse he has to offer to Monsieur Cartier for the results which have followed that once much bepraised, but now sadly be-cursed non-confidence motion of his. It will require a tremendous display of trickery on his part, once more to redeem his character."

Neither The Globe nor the editor of The North American proved to be very good prophets, for within twelve months both papers had a demonstration that all of the nine lives of John A. were not yet exhausted, and were called upon to chronicle the fact that he had not been pitched overboard, but was received into a new Coalition

Government side by side with the cherished political idols of The Globe.

One would hardly recognize Sir Richard Cartwright as the same individual as is referred in the following editorial note of September 2nd :

"Mr. Cartwright has found his natural channel, fossil Conservatism, and while this country sends him to Parliament he will be found in the same place. His speech on the defences of the Province, as quoted in the Morning Chronicle is a rehash of his speeches about the county, where he portrayed the danger of an aggressive war by the Americans, and the necessity of immediate and full preparation for it."

The House had not been in session three weeks before trouble arose in the government ranks in readjusting the portfolios and the majority was reduced to two. The North American sounded the note of warning, and asked : "Is not some reconstruction possible?"

The Provisional Council of the County of Lennox and Addington

The provisional council was not long in assuming the duties of their new offices. The following is from the issue of September 16th :

"The first meeting of the Provisional Council was held on Thursday last, as directed by the Governor's Proclamation. All the Reeves and Deputies were present, Mr. Stevenson occupying the chair. Mr. Warner moved the appointment of Mr. Stevenson as Provisional Warden, and it was carried without opposition. Wm. V. Detlor, Esq., was appointed County Clerk, and Edmund Hooper, Esq., County Treasurer. An appropriation of $20,000 was voted for County Buildings, and the Council meets again in October to select a site for the Court House and Jail. An Executive Committee was appointed, consisting of Messrs. Stevenson, Warner, Ham, Lapum, Perry, Sexsmith and J. J. Watson."

Review of 1863

We find very little more worthy of reproduction until

the first number of 1864. Among his other reviews, the editor sums up the position in Europe as follows :

"The year that has passed, has been a momentous one in the world's history, not so much perhaps, for the great revolution it has effected, as for the important moves, political and otherwise, originating with it, which are soon destined to have a lasting and important bearing on the future of our history. In the great political arena, from which, as a colony, we are almost entirely excluded, we find a general restlessness which is a sure forerunner of some important change. Russia, whose growth of late has been amazing, has been and still is in serious trouble with her Polish subjects, and while from the emancipation edict and other liberal proclivities, we were lead to expect a humane and forbearing course from her, we must yet admit that the cruel Scythian spirit is still predominant and the liberal minds of the world are earnestly wishing that these revolutionists may yet succeed in effecting a dismemberment of the Empire.

"The one man in Europe towards whom all seem to cast their eyes when trouble is brewing, Napoleon, is now apparently in as much of a quandary as any who direct their steps after his leadership. He is generally suspected and although possessed of immense power, he is nevertheless pampered with conflicting interests and circumstances, which prevent him in some manner from pursuing all the nefarious schemes he may propose.

"When we cross the ocean we reach a struggle which now almost engrosses the attention of the world, the American Civil War. The same noble and determined course of the North to put down slavery, and the same courageous but misdirected efforts of the South to maintain it, continue. The struggle has scarcely abated, but is confined to a more limited ground than formerly. Gradually wrong is yielding to right, and although the death struggle may be hard, yet to death this monstrous evil is doomed, and sooner or later dissolution must inevitably take place."

War in Europe

In the issue of January 20th, 1864, there appeared the following forecast, which eventually proved all too true :

"The state of affairs in Europe as seen by the latest intelligence received, bears every indication of war, Germany having already made advances towards the Danes, but as yet no collision or struggle has taken place, nevertheless the appearances of an amicable arrangement and settlement of the existing difficulties, other than by the shedding of blood, seems to be entirely beyond the hopes of any. The Danish people are apparently much in favor of war and the sympathy they expect and receive from England, coupled with the support they would undoubtedly get from their brother of Sweden and Norway, do much towards nerving them to a bold resistance of any intrusion upon their rights as a nation. The grasping avaricious character of the French Emperor is here again very apparent; his long pent up desire of extending his empire to the shores of the Rhine is now looking out and becoming more visible as he imagines his chances of success better."

The Ministry, Will It Live ?

Europe was threatened with a devastating war involving several countries, the United States was engaged in a bloody fratricidal struggle. Mexico had been subjugated by France and a deputation was tendering the crown of the new empire on this continent to Archduke Maximilian of Austria. We in Canada were not free from trouble. The tenure of the new government was becoming more precarious day by day, and no easy solution of the difficulty seemed to be forthcoming. In the issue of February 10th, the editor laments the unsettled condition of affairs :

"This is now an everyday question, and anxious knots of amateur politicians are daily gathered about every street corner, giving the question a coloring according to their individual feelings or prejudice. The present Reform Government, it is well known, have worked their way under circumstances of extreme difficulty and the political horizon is as much clouded now as ever. They, last session, met

Parliament after a General Election with only a majority of 2 or 3 votes, and by an unexampled attendance of members, carried through the business and retained office.

"Perhaps none have been better pleased than ourselves with many acts of the present administration and on numerous occasions we have unhesitatingly declared our confidence in its integrity and honesty. It has done much towards reducing the expense of Government and placing us on a good financial footing, but we believe there are few who desire to see the scenes of last session enacted over again. Such political canvassing and coaxing, such tremendous exertions of the OUTS to get IN, and the INS to stay IN were never before seen, and during such seasons as this the business of the country must be neglected. Men who should devote their undivided attention to the best interests of their constituents waste valuable time in endeavours to influence the Goddess of Fortune to favor the one or the other political party with which they are identified. Such has been, almost without interruption, the position of affairs since the accession to power of the present administration, and is now becoming a grave question whether it should last longer."

The New County Council

"Now that the Municipal elections are over, we suppose that there will be no delay in erecting the buildings necessary for county purposes so that we may soon become a totally distinct county without any reference at all to the senior county of Frontenac. It is not to be denied that the people of Newburgh felt much chagrined and disappointed at losing the County Town, without any appeal to a popular vote, but that question is gone and no amount of agitation would now be likely to have the least effect on the matter, and since one question is settled, by what means it is not our province to herald. It now becomes the duty of every man to aim to burden the county as little as possible with a county debt, in this the beginning of our career. In the building of the Court House in Kingston, a vast amount of money was lavished and an expenditure indulged in that should be a timely warning to our local legislators. In a

final settlement with Frontenac, which must soon take place, we will experience the dire effects of this extravagance for it will be all but impossible to get anything like an adequate value for the immense pile of buildings owned by the counties. If the matter is managed judiciously, we may by the gift of the county property, begin life nearly clear from encumbrance, save what is expended in our own affairs.

"The bitter feeling in Frontenac against the separation will be apt to create a great difficulty in the way of an amicable settlement of the county business, as we may be sure they will carefully guard anything that will directly or indirectly, militate against their local interests. If, however, anything imprudent is done, on our own ground we will have our own representatives to blame, and with the store of past experience to teach them, any error on their part will be almost inexcusable. The county needs good substantial buildings and they are not able to pay too high a price for them, and we believe there is hardly a member of the county council who will not faithfully work for the accomplishment of so desirable an end."

From the issue of February 17th, we learn that the provisional council for Lennox and Addington had met and transacted a good deal of important business, including the adoption of plans for a new court house and gaol, and the advertising for tenders for their erection. The editor seemed to have the faculty of correctly sizing up the situation in foreign countries. In one editorial he laments the threatening war cloud in Europe. Germany had delivered a bullying ultimatum to Denmark demanding the evacuation of Schleswig. Denmark relying upon the probability of England intervening and the sympathy of France, Sweden, Italy and Russia, was not disposed to submit. Prussia and Austria, on the other hand, backed up Germany. Archduke Maximilian could not refuse the tempting offer of the crown of the new Empire of Mexico, and The North American with a true prophetic genius, warns him of his probable fate in the following brief editorial :

"Maximilian has finally accepted the Crown of Mexico

and will soon sail for his new dominions. Whether Napoleon's policy of placing a Prince on a Mexican throne will be as satisfactory as he hoped is yet to be seen. Mexico is one of the most thoroughly unreliable of all nationalities, and it will be little short of a miracle if the new Emperor makes any better headway than the different presidents have in the last twelve or thirteen years."

As The North American did not continue publication to chronicle the accuracy of its prediction, we might here mention that the ill-advised Archduke did not prove to be an exception to the rule that the average reign of the Mexican rulers at that time was about two years, and the reign generally terminated in banishment or execution. Maximilian was hurled from the throne by the Republican forces and shot at Queretaro on June 19th, 1867.

From the latter part of February, 1864, there was no lack of material to engage the editor's pen and he took full advantage of it all, and besides publishing copious reports of the events of the day he gave his readers the benefit of his views upon the various topics. War had broken out in Europe and Parliament was again in session.

War

"Our readers will observe by the telegraphic reports in another column, to which we have devoted a large space, that war has already commenced in Europe, but as yet we have no very definite news as to the result, the Germans evidently keeping back the news, although, while the Danes are single handed, there can be but little doubt of the finale. England is just now in a neutral position, much to the chagrin of Denmark, but we scarcely think she will maintain this attitude when the integrity of Denmark is threatened. However, we cannot even imagine any peacable termination to the present complications."

How like the comments of the press when the news of the outbreak of the Great War first reached us !

Parliament

"The Provincial Parliament opened on Friday last in

Quebec. The speech from the throne, which we give in another place, refers to many important subjects, which, if the government are not defeated, will probably be adjusted in some manner before the House is prorogued. There are rumours of changes of the Administration by admitting Mr. Bell of Russell as Provincial Secretary, Mr. Ferguson Blair becoming Solicitor General West.

"The Globe is not at all pleased at this prospect and seems to be confident that it will not succeed with the Upper Canada supporters of the Administration. As usual at the opening of parliament, Quebec is full of all sorts of rumors with regard to politics, and each party is confident of supremacy. Of course no one knows with certainty what will be the end, but we do not wish to see the scenes of last session repeated. We have not heard yet whether the opposition will move amendments to the address or not, but there is a rumor that they will test the Government on their financial policy and not on the address. If they are guilty of so much propriety as this it will be the first offence of the kind."

Our County Buildings

"It is with much satisfaction that we observe the near prospect of our county buildings being placed under contract. The plans as amended and adopted seem to meet with general approval, and we trust that nothing may occur to mar a satisfactory arrangement as regards the contracts and the ultimate completion of the whole within the required time."

In the issue of March 9th, appears a full report of a two days' session of the Provisional County Council, at which the various tenders for building the Court House and Gaol were considered. They varied from $31500.00 to $42089.00. The contract was awarded to John Forin, of Belleville, for $33146.00.

To Advertisers

We were somewhat surprised to find that the issue of May 12th was published in Picton instead of Newburgh, and

in a leading editorial, the writer explains his appearance in Picton but assigns no reason for quitting Newburgh.

"As for our appearance, we would only say that for a long time two public papers have been supported in Picton, other business has increased at least four-fold, and we give the people of the county sufficient credit for public spirit, to trust them for a generous patronage, if the object is really deserving. We shall at all times, earnestly strive to maintain a consistent course, without respect to parties or personal affinities; on all occasions to denounce wrong and uphold right, and while we take this course, fearlessly, though we are perfectly aware that we will make enemies, we are convinced that we will meet the approval of all right thinking people, whose minds are biased rather towards right than interest."

Evidently Newburgh did not appreciate the efforts of the McMullen Bros. to maintain a local press in the village, and if they found that their venture there was not a paying one, it was quite natural that they should try their fortune in Picton, which was their native town.

The paper retained the same advertisements that appeared in it when published in Newburgh, probably because the period over which the advertising contracts were to run had not yet expired, but there were no further news items in its columns touching upon local affairs in Lennox and Addington. It is quite refreshing, however, to read the terse and sensible comments of the editor upon the general news of the day, and particularly the political situation in Canada. They give us a fair glimpse at history in the making during a most important crisis in the political development of our country. He sums up the advance of General Grant as follows :

The American War

"The victorious army of the Potomac still reports success. Gen. Grant is clearing away obstacles on the way to Richmond, which he is rapidly nearing. Several encounters have taken place in the last few days, and the slaughter has been terrible, the Federals admitting 15,000

wounded. On the South Gen. Butler has defeated Beauregard, and is within ten miles of Richmond, the losses on both sides are heavy, but the advantage is with the North, every time. On the whole the tide of fortune seems turned against J. Davis & Co., and the Southern Bubble, so manfully fought for, must soon collapse."

General Grant

In a subsequent issue the reader's attention is directed to the following picture of the leader of the Northern army:

"A clergyman writes from the army of the Potomac of an interview with Lieutenant General Grant, whom he met sitting in a once elegant mansion, with a New York paper in his hand, quietly enjoying his cigar :—'Like everyone else who meets him, we were charmed with his quiet, modest simplicity and manly bearing. He is a low voiced, diffident man with fair skin and brown hair-locks younger even than Fremont and talks slowly like one used to keeping his own secrets. He says he never had a headache. God grant he may have no headache during the coming eventful month. When I rallied him pleasantly about the traditional cigar, which he used as Napoleon did the snuff-box, he smilingly replied, 'When the war is over I am going to give it up'. He has the most undoubted confidence in the troops. In every tent we hear the same spontaneous testimony'."

In the interval between the dates of the last number published in Newburgh, March 16th, and the first number published in Picton, May 12th, the government of John Sandfield Macdonald, unable any longer to command a majority of votes in the House, resigned on the 21st of March. The Governor, Lord Monck, was at his wits' end. It seemed a difficult task to form any government that could long remain in office. The tension between the two provinces was increasing every day. He tendered the honor of forming a ministry to two different ex-ministers but each in turn failed to select a cabinet. He then turned to the much abused "Corruptionists", Sir Etienne Tache and John A. Macdonald, who for the second time assumed the reins. The North American in its first Picton issue,

gives its readers an indication of its views upon the combination :

Parliamentary

"The acceptance of office by a new Government, the re-election of its members and their meeting Parliament has been a political topic for the last few weeks, and as a motion of want of confidence is soon to be moved, we will probably be fully satiated with political squabbling this summer as we were last. What the prospects of the stability of the ministry are, we do not know, but it must be a matter of regret that political revolutions should be so frequent in Canada. As regards the present House, it is perfectly plain that conducting a Government with it, is a delicate piece of business, and nearly every political prophet looks forward to a general election as imminent.

"How the present administration would stand in the event of an appeal to the country is a matter of great doubt; there are several of its members not at all popular in Upper Canada, and the vote of her constituencies in the aggregate would be averse to it; on the other hand, in the Lower Province, the opposite would be the case, but which side would get the largest sectional majority is always a matter of uncertainty. For our part, we believe that no strong Government can be formed till some understanding is arrived at, whereby sectional issues will be, to a certain extent, abandoned, and the violent personal differences now existing amicably settled."

Although the editor's sanctum had been shifted, and his paper no longer touched upon matters of local interest in Lennox and Addington, yet we cannot forbear reproducing a few more editorials touching upon the political crisis at Quebec. These articles give the history of that crisis an interesting personal touch, and the able manner in which the editor handled the public questions of the day might well serve as a guide to many present day editors of our Provincial newspapers.

The Tache-Macdonald Government was having a tempestuous time with their ship of state. They would no sooner weather one storm than they would encounter

another. We are familiar with the facts of those pre-confederation days as we read them in our histories, but in these editorials written at a time when the future was in doubt and men were gathering in groups on the street corners and wondering what would happen next, we get some idea of the nervous strain that the statesmen of that time were undergoing. Here we have an editor in a small country town who feels the responsibility of his position. He has his political favorites but realizes that the time has come when there must be a change. The affairs of the union between Upper and Lower Canada had not been running smoothly for years. Nearly everyone was convinced that one government could not legislate in all matters for both provinces, yet owing to their geographical position and mutual commercial interests, they could not very well be wholly separated. Some sort of union was necessary. What was it to be? The bad blood aroused by the frequent dissolutions did not make the task of solving the problem an easy one. We can read between the lines of the following editorials that apprehension that all was not well. The question that seemed to loom up large on the political horizon was, "what next?" To add to the difficulty of the situation, the finances of the country were in bad shape with no immediate prospect of improvement. There were four view-points of the crisis, none of which could be disregarded :—the racial, religious, economic and political. Well might the editor of a small country newspaper quake before them. The more we read such editorials as are here reproduced, the more respect will we have for the Fathers of Confederation who sank their political differences, grappled with the question and laid a firm foundation for our Dominion which has awakened the admiration and envy of the statesmen of the world when confronted with similar complications.

Fall of the Ministry

"The Tache-Macdonald Government were defeated on Tuesday night last by a majority of 2, the votes standing 60 to 58. We would give the yeas and nays, only that in the report furnished by the Globe we find, on counting, that there are but 52 names given among the nays. The

question was on an amendment to go into a Committee of Supply, moved by Mr. A. A. Dorion to condemn the $100,000 transaction with the City of Montreal and the Grand Trunk Railway. Messrs. Rankin and Dunkin voted yea on the amendment. The motion was accepted as one of Want of Confidence, and it is likely that a dissolution will take place, though we have not yet heard."

A Coalition

"Last week we made the announcement that the Tache-Macdonald Government were defeated, and gave as our opinion, in accordance with the generally conceived impression that dissolution of the house would take place. The events of the past week, however, have completely revolutionized the political horizon, and led many to even doubt the evidence of their own senses.

"Shortly after the defeat of the administration, Mr. J. A. Macdonald and Mr. Galt called on Mr. George Brown, who has so long and strenuously opposed them; Mr. Brown promptly responded to the call and a basis for the settlement of our sectional and constitutional difficulties was at once broached and discussed.

"Announcements are being made from day to day by the Government and Mr. Brown, as to the success and progress of affairs, and it is likely that a final settlement was made yesterday, Wednesday afternoon.

"To say that the announcement by Mr. Macdonald, of the fact that the negotiations were going on with Mr. Brown took the House and country by surprise, would be a weak form of expression, the matter completely astounded everybody, as the universal opinion was, that the disputes of former years had made an impassable breach between Mr. Brown and the members of the old Coalition Government.

"After more mature reflection, however, the general opinion seems to be that the step was wise and the prospect of a speedy and permanent settlement of our difficulties by a federal union, as is proposed is gratefully hailed as a relief from the continual agitation and disputing of the last seven or eight years.

"Thus far, it is admitted on all hands, the proceedings have been conducted with the utmost candor and fairness, and the disinterested conduct of the members of the Government, as well as Mr. Brown, is highly creditable to their loyal devotion to the true interests of the country.

"In agreeing upon a federal union as a basis of the settlement of our constitutional difficulties, we believe that the only feasible one has been selected; not that it will be the most advantageous to Upper Canada, but is more fair on the whole, than any other.

"It would be premature to give the proposed policy in anything like detail, as it has not yet been officially announced; but we would merely remark that each province will have a separate Legislature for local matters and then a General Legislative body, as well as a Government for the management of affairs pertaining to both provinces, and in the lower branch of the general body the representation will be based on population.

"This is an outline of the scheme as proposed, and so far it meets with a hearty approval, although there are some mal-contents.

"We believe it is the plain duty of every good citizen to at least give the new arrangement a fair and impartial trial, watch closely their administrative acts, as well as their legislative movements, and if they honestly and fairly endeavour to remedy the existing evils and smooth the ill-feeling between the two sections, give them an open and hearty support; and on the other hand, if their course is one of selfish aggrandizement, and their talk of devotion and self-sacrifice merely a sham, we would be among the first to put forth our little assistance to doom them as public men. But the risk, under the circumstances, would be too great for anything but an open and guileless proceeding for the characters of everyone concerned would be blasted forever, were the least semblance of double-dealing to be discovered.

"They have undertaken a vast responsibility, and while they set themselves to the performance of the task no factious obstacles should be thrown in the way; let them be closely watched, and rigorously judged, not by the past

history of any one of them, but exclusively on their merits."

Coalitions

"Now that the surprise of the Canadian people has somewhat subsided, after the remarkable political revolution of the last two weeks, it may be well for everyone to calmly ask himself the question : "What may be expected from such a fusion?" For our part, when the news of a probable coalition between Messrs. Brown, Galt, Cartier and John A. Macdonald arrived, we were perfectly incredulous and even when it became beyond the possibility of a doubt, we could scarcely credit our eye-sight. So determined and violent has been the conduct of these men towards each other for years past that an understanding between them seemed almost impossible.

"But now that it has been fully, clearly, and definitely explained and the reasons fairly and we believe honestly given, we must admire the self-abnegation which prompted the furtherance of negotiations to so successful an issue.

"To take the history of the men most prominent in bringing about the formation of this coalition, and look at the palpably inconsistent position in which it places them, we can easily understand how readily their motives are questioned by many.

"First comes Mr. John A. Macdonald who has been in Parliament since 1843; he entered a strong Conservative, and violently opposed Responsible Government, and every approach to Constitutional Reform. This continued up to 1854 and in the meantime the Clergy Reserve question was agitating the country and had been the means of destroying many public men. Mr. Macdonald had all along opposed any settlement which would deprive the Established Church of the lands. In 1854 however, upon the formation of the Coalition Government, the same John A. Macdonald was the very man to take up this matter and put it finally to rest; and if he ever did a good act, he did it then. It is not necessary to follow him through the various corrupt acts of his famous eight years tenure of office. They are too well known to need any further ventilation. Many men before him have, under extreme necessity, given way to

the exorbitant demands of clamorous and unprincipled supporters. At the present time he stands admitted by all parties, after a chequered political life, to be the most consummate parliamentary tactician that Canada has ever seen.

"Following him let us take a look at the great bugbear of the habitants, the man who has been represented to the simple hearted French Canadians as ready at any time to see them and their institutions, with all they hold dear, mercilessly immolated on the altar of Upper Canada; who has been pictured to their imaginations as at all times but watching for an opportunity to completely wipe out Lower Canada and place it beyond this mundane sphere. Mr. George Brown, since coming to Canada has always been an extreme man, and by that means has been debarred from ever occupying positions of trust and responsibility, and considering his great ability, this has often been a cause of regret among his friends. He assisted to destroy Mr. Hinck's Government, and then in turn violently denounced John A. and his colleagues of the Coalition; and his immense direct influence in Upper Canada may be judged from the fact that over 40 members now represent Upper Canada constituencies, who were elected to further the views, in the main, held and advocated by Mr. Brown. That Mr. Brown has sometimes allowed his personal feelings to get the better of his judgment, we readily believe, and being a man of strong prejudices he has often committed grave errors; but many have noticed with pleasure, that the last two or three years have softened to some extent, the asperities of his temper, and modified in some degree his extreme political views.

"In fostering and keeping alive sectional prejudices, perhaps no man more resembles Mr. Brown than Mr. G. E. Cartier, whom we will reckon as third in our category.

"Violently and exclusively, French Canadian in all his sympathies, he has long been the favorite representative of the Church party in Lower Canada. A rebel in 1837, he is now super-loyal in all his professions, and we must admit that for years past no act of his can be construed to divest us of the belief that he is sincere in his present

professions. Mr. Cartier holds a high place in the affections of his fellow-countrymen, but this much cannot be said of him in Upper Canada and indeed it may surprise the sturdy yeomanry of this Province how he and Mr. Brown, who may be looked upon as the leaders of our sectional parties, can quietly and comfortably come to an agreement after years of such violent and merciless denunciation.

"Of Mr. T. A. Galt it may be said, that being an English member from Lower Canada he has never been so mixed up with the sectional and religious matters as some others. We would only say, however, in order to show that almost every man may commit inconsistent acts, that he signed the Annexation Manifesto in 1849, while he now ranks as a Conservative of the first water. It is chiefly with his administrative acts that fault is found, and extravagance and corruption boldly charged.

"But in considering the question of coalition we must divest ourselves to some extent of the past history of the men who are intimately concerned in it, and impartially consider it on its merits.

"It is well known that the question of representative reform has been a leading one in Upper Canada for years and has been the main cause of all the bad feeling engendered between the two Provinces, and the basis and first cause of this apparently incongruous union is to settle, and that forever, this question. It was truthfully stated by both parties to the matter that nothing but a determination to arrange this difficulty would justify their meeting for combined political action. And from the explanation given in another place from the official paper, it will be seen that an earnest effort will at once be made for a satisfactory solution and the details are sufficiently fore-shadowed to promise a measure of great importance. The Government, when the reconstruction takes place will embrace the ablest men in the country, men who are perfectly acquainted with the workings of our political system, and who actuated as we believe they are by a desire manfully to meet and overcome the difficulties of the situation, will devote their energies fully to the

work and thus setting at rest that continued agitation which has sacrificed many of our brightest minds as well as squandered millions of our public money.

"So long as this is done, they deserve support, for surely no one is anxious to see repeated the continued state of uncertainty of which the past two years have furnished an example. It is demoralizing as well as disgraceful and almost any remedy should be gladly hailed. Let us free our minds from any consideration of who it is that settles it and merely watch how it is done, and what are the prospects for the success of the plan adopted.

"The charge of bad faith has already been preferred, or at least that a sufficient guarantee has not been given. To this it need only be said that in creating such a revolution the parties concerned ran a great risk, and any semblance of duplicity would justly condemn them to the execration of the people, and forever drive them from public life.

"To every Reformer there will be one regret in thus associating politically with those whom we have for years opposed, and that is the necessary separation from the gallant band of Liberals from Lower Canada under the leadership of Mr. Dorion. They have for years stood by Upper Canada and their chivalrous self-denial, for self-denial it was, has earned for them a high place in the hearts of Reformers in this Province, and while their opposition is sincere, it will, we hope, be divested of all taint of personal feeling and that no overt act of hostility on the part of either will ever cause them to be regarded by us with anything but the most profound respect and esteem."

Federation

"It would certainly be premature to discuss in detail a measure of so complex a nature as the one given in our heading, but nevertheless the revolution of the last few weeks has made it a matter for each to think about, and calmly and dispassionately arrive at a conclusion whether in his mind it is likely to prove efficacious in quieting our difficulties and settling our constitutional mistakes. It may not be improper to give an epitome of our political history,

as far as this is concerned, since the Union, in order that we may see clearly what has brought on the existing state of affairs. In 1840 when the Union, which has created so many difficulties and so much contention and strife, urged on by the Imperial Government was effected, Lower Canada possessed a large preponderance in population and this was the cause of so much grumbling by the French Canadian members, as it unjustly gave Upper Canada too large a share in the management of public affairs and the expenditure of money. But it was then urged as an anti-revolutionary measure, and mainly carried by outside pressure. In the course of a few years, however, as the fertile West began to be known, and the superiority of climate and soil better appreciated and taken advantage of Upper Canada began to fill up until it first balanced and then surpassed Lower, and this fact, coupled with some jealousies and animosities gave rise to the sectional cry of Representation by Population. Some parties have even gone so far as to say that a dissolution of the Union, pure and simple, would be preferable to the present state of the case, but the folly of this will at once be seen when we look at the geographical position of both provinces, and fancy how Upper Canada would keep good her passage to the sea and Lower her connection with the grain ports of the West. But this very reasonable request for Representation by Population has often been advocated in so partisan a manner, and even the religious professions of the Lower Canadians held as a ground why Upper Canada should be no longer deprived of her fair representation, that the question has almost become a matter of conscience with the Roman Catholics, and thus the bitterness and acerbity which have attended many of the debates on the subject at various times in the House.

"But for the last few years it has been evident, even to the most enthusiastic supporters of the measure, that without some compromise it would be impossible to carry it; and even Mr. Brown who may be almost looked upon as the father of the scheme, has repeatedly declared that he was ready and willing to accept any compromise which would give this Province her fair share of justice, and

declaring at the same time that he had no desire to interfere in any way with the peculiar institutions of our neighbours. It will be remembered that during the last session Mr. Brown succeeded in having a committee of 20 leading members of the House, of all shades of political opinions, appointed to take into consideration our difficulties, and report upon a scheme which they deemed most expedient as a permanent basis for final settlement. This committee, which embraced Messrs. Brown, Macdonald, Cartier, Galt, McDougall and Mowat, the most prominent members of the new Cabinet in the Assembly, reported nearly unanimously in favor of a Federal Union of all the British North American Provinces, there being but three dissenting voices. Indeed the measure is by no means new; Mr. Galt has long advocated it and when the probable results are carefully scanned it will be seen that it is a most important as well as advantageous change for us. To be sure the particulars of the measure are not fully arranged, but such is the general desire for it here as well as in the Lower Provinces that we look for a speedy and satisfactory basis. In this plan, of course, Upper Canada being the most numerously populated, of any of the contracting states, will have the largest representation in the lower branch of the proposed General Legislature, and consequently the heaviest share of influence. Some indeed are found who think that it will positively injure us to be connected with the poorer Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, etc., but a glance at their balance sheets would at once dispel any such illusions, and even should our material resources give us any great advantage over them yet the inevitable incorporation of the North West Territory and also British Columbia and Vancouver's Island with their vast undeveloped wealth would more than counter-balance any such drawback.

"It must be truly pleasing to any truly loyal Canadian to think that while a fearful civil war is raging among our immediate neighbours, with true devotion to the British Crown we are on the eve of a bloodless revolution, the results of which will be to raise Canada from a mere

Province to the chief corner stone in the great British North American nation.

"Such a prospect deserves the most earnest attention of our public men, and while they are earnestly and faithfully working to accomplish it, none but the disappointed and the jealous will try to throw serious obstacles in their way. Their labors should be closely watched, but so long as they sincerely endeavour to carry out their pledges every possible leniency should be shown and we mistake Upper Canadians if they do not most effectually frown down any attempts at a factious opposition to the first real display of statesmanship which we have seen for years."

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